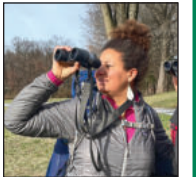




Chess Club Tournament, p.16



Birding 101, p.16

Save As You Throw Program Shows Early Reduction in Waste

by Stephen Lotz



PHOTO BY ERICA JOHNS

Trash and recycling including the signature purple SAYT bags sit by the curb on Lastner Lane.

Greenbelt's new Save As You Throw trash program is beginning to reduce waste, with residents saying it has changed how they manage household trash.

Early data show about 72 percent of households are using the pay-per-bag system, while 28

percent opted for the flat-rate Max Trash option, according to Sustainability Coordinator Luisa Robles. The city has also seen roughly a 16 percent reduction in waste so far.

The program, launched in See **SAYT**, page 12

Four Teens Indicted in Shooting Of 14-Year-Old Carltin Bayong

by Anna Bedford-Dillow

Carltin Bayong was a 14-year-old who had just begun his first year at Eleanor Roosevelt High School when he was killed in a drive-by shooting near Cherrywood Terrace and Breezewood Court in the middle of a Sunday afternoon. The shooting, which police said at the time

was thought to be targeted, took place at approximately 1:45 p.m. on October 5, 2025, and shook the community (see the October 9, 2025 News Review). On Friday, April 10, Greenbelt Police Department and Prince George's

See **SHOOTING**, page 12

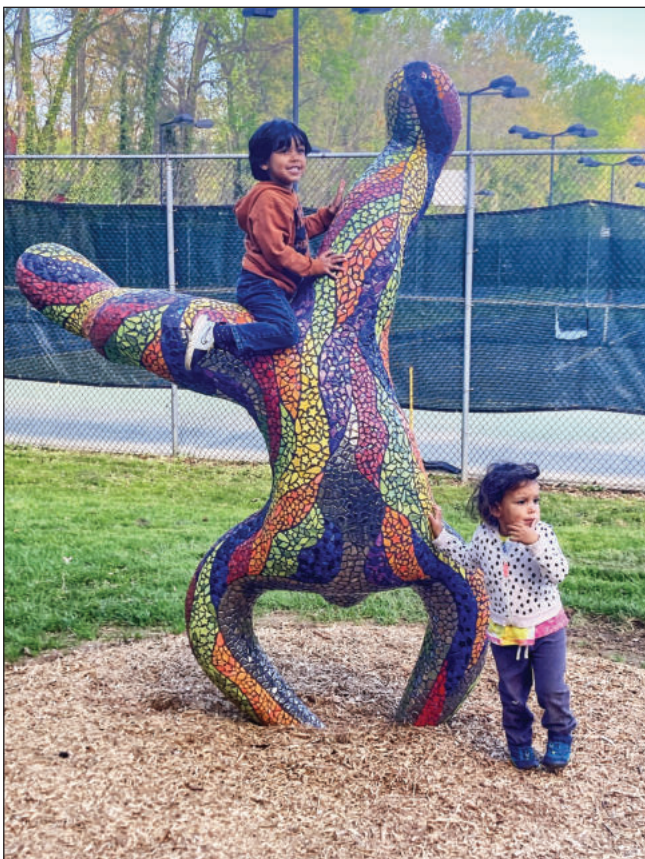


PHOTO BY NICOLE DEWALD

Markos Morris and Yohanna Morris enjoy the new Joy statue. See story, page 11.

Cooperatives Host Info Session On Possible Centerway Purchase

by Joseph Ralbovsky

Greenbelt Homes Incorporated (GHI) and Greenbelt Consumer Cooperative (GCC) (known as the Co-op Supermarket and Pharmacy), co-hosted a well-attended meeting in the Youth Center on Thursday, April 9. The topic of discourse was whether both co-operatives should further explore GHI purchasing 121 Centerway, the Roosevelt Center structure that currently leases space to GCC and the Greenbelt Arts Center, and which includes the currently vacant ground floor space that formerly housed RCCG Restoration Church and the Greenbelt Post Office.

GCC approached the landlords about the potential purchase last spring and approached GHI about being the entity to make the purchase in August. This possible property purchase, which has been the subject of much discussion, brainstorming and volunteer fact-finding between the co-operatives' boards since October, would require earnest investigation involving preliminary expenses by GHI to procure assessment



PHOTO BY TOM JONES

GHI Board President Stefan Brodd addresses members at the meeting on Thursday, April 9.

and building information, legal counsel and potentially other forms of expert advice. GHI's current governance bylaws limit the resources its board can expend without getting formal input from the membership, and this meeting was held to gauge exactly that: whether the membership believes the next step is for the board to spend the money needed to

answer two questions: 1) Can/should we do this? 2) If so, what would that look like?

At kickoff, representatives from both GHI and GCC gave an overview of how this opportunity came about, the information gathered thus far, the universe of likely outcomes for each co-

See **CO-OP**, page 7

Local Teen Selected for Youth Leadership Awards Weekend

by Emerson Gary

Emerson Gary is a 16-year-old Greenbelt resident who was recently the only youth from Prince George's County to participate in the Rotary Youth Leadership Awards (RYLA) for Rotary District 7620 (Central Maryland and Washington, D.C.) This is her account of the experience.

I was honored when the Greenbelt Rotary Club offered to sponsor me for Rotary Youth Leadership Awards (RYLA), for which I was nominated after my efforts to increase teen voting in Greenbelt.

RYLA is a program designed to help youth find new ways to become leaders by creating an environment where they work with



PHOTO COURTESY EMERSON GARY

Emerson Gary poses with her RYLA group on Presidents Day weekend at Camp Letts, Edgewater, Md. Emerson is in the back, fourth from right.

others and problem-solve together to make a positive impact. RYLA took place at the YMCA Camp Letts in Anne Arundel County, over Presidents Day weekend.

New Friends

At the camp, I met a huge mix of people from all over the DMV. Some individuals lived just down the street, while others drove hours from Virginia to get there. The people I spent the weekend with were all so welcoming. Most had been recommended through the Rotary programs at their school, something I had never heard of before as my school

doesn't have a Rotary program. Everyone there wanted to make a difference in their own way. It inspired me to do more.

On the first day at camp, in the "RYLA Olympics" we competed in challenges against other groups. One challenge I enjoyed was which group could cover someone in three rolls of toilet paper the fastest. I laughed a lot that night and made new friends from these games.

Inspiring Speakers

Although we had fun, we also

See **LEADERSHIP**, page 6

What Goes On

Monday, April 20

7:30 p.m., City Council Budget Worksession: Miscellaneous Grants and Contributions/ Greenbelt CARES, Greenbelt Cinema, Municipal Building

Wednesday, April 22

7:30 p.m., Budget Worksession: Recreation, Municipal Building

See the city ad on page 5 or the meetings calendar at greenbeltdmd.gov for more information.

This week's 16-page paper is completely paid for by advertising!

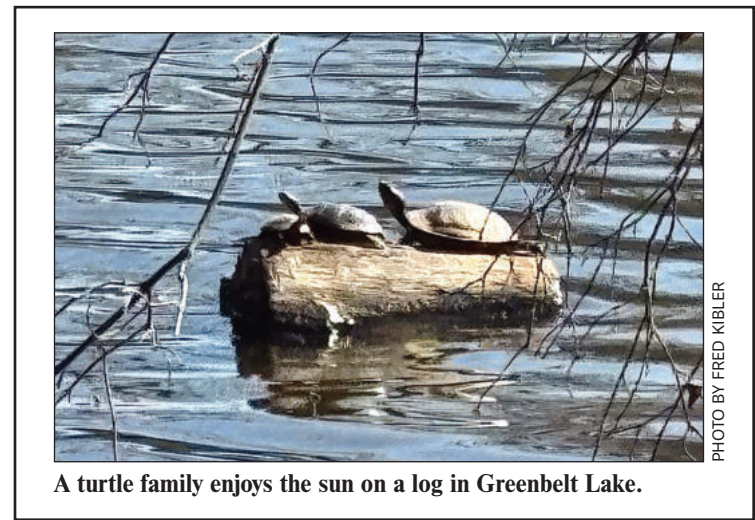


Drop Us a Line!

Electronically, that is.
editor@greenbeltnewsreview.com

Story & Photograph Submissions

We welcome your stories and photographs about all things Greenbelt. While publication is not guaranteed, your submissions help us cover more of what goes on. Stories will be copyedited. Remember to include captions and identify people in photographs. See the information box on this page for publication deadlines and how to submit materials.



On Screen at Greenbelt Cinema

The Christophers

Desperate for an inheritance, two siblings conspire to forge their father's unfinished paintings so they become valuable after his death. Said critic Bob Mondello of NPR, "A film that could have settled for being a masterclass in technique, but instead goes deeper, exploring questions of artistry, authorship, legacy."

Miroirs No. 3

During a weekend trip to the countryside, Laura, a young piano student from Berlin, miraculously survives a shocking car crash. Awakening in a nearby house, Laura finds herself in the care of a local woman, who tends to her with motherly devotion. As she recuperates, Laura begins to integrate herself into the lives of the woman and her initially reluctant husband and son. By turns haunted and hopeful, Laura and her adopted family reawaken to the world and come to find a strange harmony together. However, they cannot outrun the ghosts of the past, which begin to stir, as acclaimed director Christian Petzold (Phoenix, Transit) spins a modern gothic fairytale about the lies we tell ourselves and the strange ways that grief, connection and humanity bind and sustain us.

The Super Mario Galaxy Movie

In this 2026 animated adventure comedy Mario, Luigi and Princess Peach embark on an adventure across the galaxy. Based on the 2007 video game Super Mario Galaxy and its 2010 sequel, as well as Nintendo's broader Mario franchise, the film was produced by Illumination and Nintendo and is the sequel to The Super Mario Bros. Movie.

Plastic People

This ground-breaking feature documentary investigates our addiction to plastic and the growing threat of microplastics on human health. Almost every bit of plastic ever made breaks down into microplastics – tiny particles drift in the air, float in all bodies of water and mix into the soil, becoming a permanent part of the environment. Now, leading scientists are finding these particles in our bodies: organs, blood, brain tissue and even placentas. What is the impact of these invisible invaders on our health, and can anything be done about it? Acclaimed author and science journalist Ziya Tong takes a personal approach by visiting leading scientists around the world and undergoing experiments in her home, on her food and her body while collaborating with award-winning director Ben Addelman in an urgent call to action for all of us to rethink our relationship with plastic.

Three Brave Men

In a film based on actual events, Bernard Goldsmith is a career navy employee who was just fired from his job with no warning or explanation. He investigates, and is told he's been let go because of a tenuous connection he had in his youth with a communist organization. Desperate to clear his name, the ostracized Goldsmith contracts lawyer Joe DiMarco to dispute the dismissal. With Goldsmith's life and career on the line, DiMarco prepares to argue his case.

A Life in Tandem

The journey of a lifetime begins with the destruction of Luke's life as he is diagnosed with incurable cancer. Armed with a tandem bike, he aims to complete his dream of cycling to Beijing, not knowing if he will ever reach his destination.



Greenbelt Cinema
129 Centerway
301-329-2034
www.greenbeltcinema.org

Members always \$7.00!
Member kids are always FREE!

After 5 PM: adults \$10, kids \$7,
senior/student/military \$9

Before 5 PM:
general admission \$8, kids \$6

OC = Open Captions
CC = Closed Captions
DVS = Descriptive Video Service

SHOWTIMES:
APRIL 17th - 23rd

The Christophers (R)
(CC) (DVS) (2025) (100 mins)
Screen 1 - Main Auditorium
Fri. 5:00 PM, 7:30 PM
Sat. 5:00, PM 7:30 PM
Mon. 3:00 PM (OC), 5:25 PM
Tue. 3:10 PM
Wed. 7:45 PM
Thurs. 4:30 PM
Screen 2 - The Screening Room
Sun. 3:30 PM, 6:00 PM

Miroirs No. 3 (NR)
(2025) (86 mins)
German with English subtitles
Screen 1 - Main Auditorium
Sun. 6:15 PM
Screen 2 - The Screening Room
Fri. 5:15 PM
Sat. 7:45 PM
Mon. 3:15 PM
Tue. 6:15 PM
Wed. 5:40 PM
Thurs. 7:20 PM

The Super Mario Galaxy Movie
(PG) (CC) (DVS) (2026) (96 mins)
Screen 1 - Main Auditorium
Sun. 3:45 PM
Screen 2 - The Screening Room
Fri. 7:45 PM
Sat. 5:15 PM
Mon. 5:40 PM
Tue. 3:45 PM
Wed. 8:00 PM
Thurs. 4:45 PM

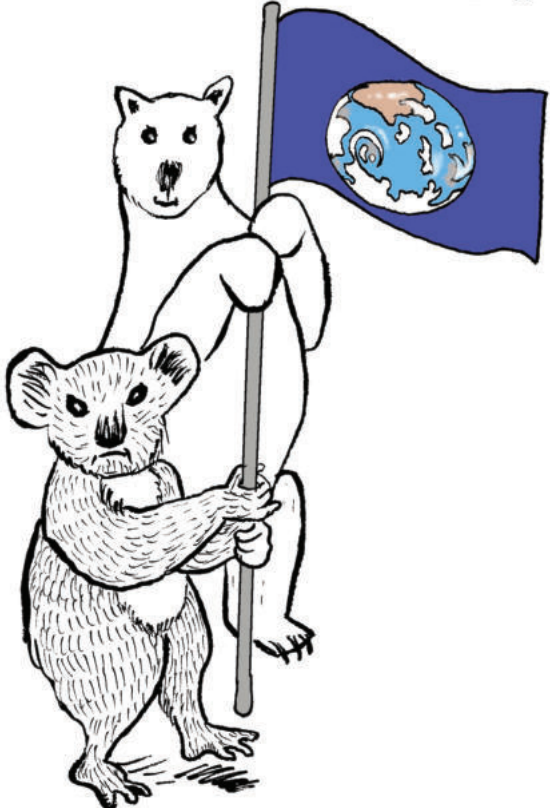
Plastic People (PG)
(2024) (90 mins) (subtitled)
FREE Sponsored by the
Maryland Sierra Club with a
post-screening Q&A
Screen 1 - Main Auditorium
Sat. 2:00 PM

Three Brave Men in 35mm
(NR) (1956) (88 mins)
FREE - no ticket/registration required
Screen 1 - Main Auditorium
Sun. 1:00 PM

A Life in Tandem
(NR) (2024) (96 mins)
Sponsored by the Keystone
State Ride Organization
50% ticket sales support
cancer research at Penn Medi-
cine's Abramson Cancer Center
Screen 1 - Main Auditorium
Thurs. 7:00 PM

Aftershock (2022) (89 mins)
FREE - no ticket required,
post-screening Q&A
Screen 1 - Main Auditorium
Tue. 6:00 PM

Pete Reppert



OKAY, I'LL SAY IT...
"GLOBAL WARMING IS UNBEARABLE."
HAPPY NOW, BIG GUY?

- News Review, April 23, 2020

Letters Policy

Deadline for letters is 6 p.m. Monday. Submission does not guarantee publication. Letters should be no longer than 300 words (shorter letters are more likely to be published).

Letters may be edited for clarity, grammar, civility and space constraints. The News Review may add a comment from the editor if deemed necessary.

All letters must include the letter writer's name, physical address, and telephone number. Only the name will be published; the News Review will consider requests for the name to be withheld.



Greenbelt News Review

AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER

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CIRCULATION Circulation Coordinator: circ@greenbeltnewsreview.com
HOA information at: www.greenbeltnewsreview.com/contact-us/distribution

Published weekly since 1937 by the Greenbelt Cooperative Publishing Association, Inc.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS
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PUBLICATION DEADLINES:
- Monday 2 p.m. Articles/photos over 700 words, Display ads (not camera ready).
- Monday 6 p.m. All letters to the editor (300 word limit).
- Tuesday 2 p.m. Articles/photos under 700 words, photographs not associated with a story.
- Tuesday 5 p.m. Co-op dropbox: Classified ads with payment only.
- Tuesday 6 p.m. Classified ads and camera-ready display ads.
- Email submission is available. Hardcopy submissions (delivered by respective deadline) may be mailed to the address above or left in the Co-op grocery store drop box or GNR external office door mail slot, as shown below.
- Payment must accompany ads except by prior arrangement.

MAIL SUBSCRIPTION: \$55/year

Greenbelt Community Center at 15 Crescent Rd.
OFFICE HOURS: Monday and Tuesday, 2 - 4 p.m.
GNR external office door mail slot is located up a few stairs 25 yards left of the Community Center's east door near the Municipal Building.

Community Events

At the Library

Greenbelt Library's regular hours are Mondays, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Tuesdays and Wednesdays, noon to 8 p.m.; Thursdays and Fridays, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Saturdays, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.; and Sundays 1 to 5 p.m. Phone: 301-345-5800; Biblio Consulta: 301-358-6862 (new number).

Storytimes

Friday, April 17, 11:15 a.m., ages 2 to 3. Register at [pgcmls.info/event/15970629](#).

Wednesday, April 22, 12:15 p.m., ages 3 to 5. Register at [pgcmls.info/event/15970056](#).

Thursday, April 23, 10:15 a.m., ages newborn to 2. Register at [pgcmls.info/event/15970275](#).

Storytime on Screen

Monday, April 20, 10:30 a.m., ages 1 to 5, at the Greenbelt Cinema. Greenbelt Cinema and the Library are offering a free program of stories, songs and a short film. No unaccompanied children or adults.

LEGO Build

Monday, April 20, 4 p.m., ages 5 to 12. Build, create and explore with Legos. With plenty of pieces and endless possibilities, kids can let their imaginations take the lead in this freestyle building session. Register at [pgcmls.info/event/15827994](#).

STEM Fun

Tuesday, April 21, 4:30 p.m., ages 5 to 12. Dive into the world of science, technology, engineering and math with fun, hands-on experiments and activities. Explore different tracks that animals make through interactive challenges that spark curiosity and creativity. Register at [pgcmls.info/event/15932937](#).

Apply for a Passport

The Greenbelt Library, along with five other branches (Accokeek, Largo-Kettering, Laurel, New Carrollton and Oxon Hill), serves as a U.S. Passport Acceptance Facility. Applications are accepted by appointment only; schedule a 30-minute appointment up to 30 days in advance by calling the Library at 301-345-5800 or visiting [pgcmls.info/passport-services](#).

GVFD to Hold Indoor Community Yard Sale

The Ladies Auxiliary of the Greenbelt Volunteer Fire Department will have an indoor community yard sale on Saturday, May 9 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the fire department, 125 Crescent Road. To make a table reservation or for further information, call Kathy at 301-351-7496. Food and beverage will be available for purchase.



Mussolini Film Screens At Next Reel and Meal

At the Reel and Meal at the New Deal Café, catch a PBS film about Benito Mussolini, the father of fascism in Europe who gained power through violence, propaganda and nationalistic pride. Mussolini used paramilitary squads to intimidate left-wing opponents; undermined Parliament, the Judiciary and the Press; jailed opponents; rigged elections; and took control of schools to create one-man rule. Following the free screening will be a discussion about whether fascism is possible in the United States.

The Greenbelt Potters group will have ceramic items on display for purchase to benefit Greenbelt Refugee Aid in support of Ukrainian victims of war. This is a follow-up to last month's film, Porcelain War, which dealt with the artistic endeavors of Ukrainian artists. See the free Mussolini film on Monday, April 20 at 6:30 p.m. in person at the New Deal Café or on Zoom. For Zoom register at [tinyurl.com/ReelMeal2026](#).

Astro Animations To Debut at GSFC

On Thursday, April 23 starting at noon, students of the Maryland Institute College of Art Astro-Animators, together with scientists at Goddard Space Flight Center (GSFC), will debut their new animations and discuss their process for creating their art at the GSFC Visitor Center. After the screenings, there will be a question-and-answer session where the students will also discuss how to become an animator. The GSFC Visitor Center is located at 9432 Greenbelt Road.



Art Studio Open House & Sale

The Greenbelt Recreation Arts Program will host an Art Studio Open House and Sale on Sunday, May 3 from 1 to 4 p.m. at the Community Center. Tour the studios of the center's eight artists in residence and mingle with Greenbelt Recreation arts instructors; several artists will have work available for purchase. Visit the art gallery and participate in free hands-on activities for all ages. See details as they are announced at [greenbeltmd.gov/arts](#).

More Community Events are located throughout the paper.

Razz Documentary Director's Cut Redux



PHOTO BY JIM CRENCA

RAZZ performs in 1978

On Sunday, April 26, enjoy a Greenbelt Cinema show followed by an after-party at the New Deal Café.

Razz was one of the most explosive, entertaining and influential live bands in 1970s Washington, D.C. From their start in 1971 to their breakup in late 1979, a cast of talent – including lead singer Michael Reidy, drummer Greenbelter Doug Tull, bassist Ted Niceley and guitarists Bill Craig, Abaad Behram and Tommy Keene – became a wholly original rock band amid a club scene dominated by cover bands, and a record industry that found them impossible to label. For more on the band and documentary see p.12 of the February 27, 2025 News Review. One year after their Director's Cut premiere screening, the filmmakers return with even more Razz stories, music and memories in honor of iconic front man Reidy, who died in March.

See the documentary Sunday, April 26, 3 to 6 p.m. at the Greenbelt Cinema; all proceeds will support the cinema. Purchase tickets at [greenbeltcinema.org/movie/razz-the-documentary---directors-cut-redux](#).

Following the screening, attendees are encouraged to visit the New Deal Café where a film of Razz playing at The Bayou (Georgetown) will be shown from 6 to 8 p.m. The after-party features a rare chance to see the 1979 Bayou set from start to finish, on the New Deal screen. Only two songs appear in the documentary, so the New Deal screening will be a chance to see more. For details visit [newdealcafe.com/events/calendar](#).

Call For Art

The New Deal Café is looking for artwork for the Green Man art show. The theme of the Green Man Exhibit is nature. Send photos of artwork to [artatnewdealcafe@gmail.com](#) as soon as possible; the deadline is Thursday, April 30. The show will run from Sunday, May 3 to Sunday, July 5.

Concert Band Hosts Instrument Garden

Join the Greenbelt Concert Band for a magical afternoon of music and discovery as they host A Day with Disney and Instrument Garden on Saturday, April 18 at 3 p.m. at the Community Center.

Come dressed as a favorite Disney character and enjoy a lively concert filled with Disney favorites as the band brings cherished movie moments to life. Along the way, discover the instruments and the unique sounds they create, making it a fun, interactive and engaging experience for music lovers of all ages.

Dancing scarves and rhythm instruments will be provided for everyone to use during the concert, thanks to a grant from the Greenbelt Community Foundation supporting the band's project Engaging Young Audiences Through Music Participation.

Learn more about Greenbelt Concert Band at [greenbeltconcertband.org](#).

The band would love help with concert setup, breakdown and greeting audience members as they arrive. Great opportunity for student service hours. Contact Li'l Dan, general manager, for more details at [gcb-manager@greenbeltconcertband.org](#).

Golden Age Club

The Golden Age Club meets on Wednesdays at 11 a.m. in Room 201 of the Community Center.

Upcoming meetings:
April 22, Spring Ticket Auction. Bring small bills to bid.
April 29, Bingo

Chess Club Meets Tuesday, April 21

The Greenbelt Chess Club will meet on Tuesday, April 21, at the Youth Center from 6:30 to 8:50 p.m. The club welcomes people of all ages and skill levels. To be added to the mailing list, visit [tinyurl.com/ycy2nz4m](#) and complete the brief form. Email questions to [greenbeltchessclub@gmail.com](#).

G-B Garden Club Plant Sale May 2

The Greenbelt-Beltsville Garden Club will host its popular annual plant sale on Saturday, May 2 from 9 a.m. to noon, in the parking lot next to Roosevelt Center where the Farmers Market is held. A large variety of affordable, healthy plants will be available, among them vegetables, herbs, houseplants, annuals, native perennials and shrubs.

Roaming Stone will also be on site to sharpen tools and knives during the event for a fee, including scissors (excluding hair/grooming shears), gardening and yardwork tools and mower blades.

Spring is here and it's planting time. This sale has what is needed to get the growing season off to a good start. For more information about the club, visit [beltsvillegardenclub.org](#).



Community Gathering Saturday, April 18

Come to the Community Center, Room 103, Saturday from 3 to 5 p.m. to share a poem, a song, a prayer, a thought or a visual arts piece to connect and uplift. All are welcome; sharing is optional. This is an open gathering sponsored by multiple Greenbelt groups to develop friendships and vibrant community life by integrating arts, spirituality and culture.

Tea, coffee and light refreshments will be available. Bring a mug if possible.

This Week at the New Deal Café

Celebrating 30 Years in Greenbelt! Try Our New Menu & Drinks!

BECOME A MEMBER!*



FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK!

113 Centerway, Roosevelt Center, Greenbelt, MD
Monday, 9am-9pm; Tuesday—Thursday, 9am - 10pm; Friday/Saturday, 9am – 12midnight;
Sunday, 9am – 9pm

REMEMBER TO TIP OUR PERFORMERS - IT'S THE ONLY WAY THEY'RE PAID!
*** RESERVATIONS: 301-474-5642 ***

TH 4/16	FRI 4/17	SAT 4/18	SUN 4/19	
BACK ROOM CLOSED FOR PRIVATE EVENT, 11a - 2pm ----- Classic Jam with the Low Rent Quartet 7 - 9pm Blues-leaning music	The Wharf Rats 8 - 11pm Shakin' psychedelic jam band playing tasty originals AND Grateful Dead, Cash and more!	BACK ROOM CLOSED FOR PRIVATE EVENT, 10a - 1pm Dirty Soul 8 - 11pm Playing swampy-funk, RnB and bluesy soul. Powerful vocal duo backed up by superb band	CLOTHING SWAP w/ MUSIC BY DAN HOVEY, 11a - 2pm ----- Grateful Sunday featuring Great Northern 6 - 8pm Capturing the energy & dynamics of the Dead	
MON 4/20	TUES 4/21	WED 4/22	TH 4/23	New Deal Cafe
REEL AND MEAL 6:30 - 9pm A monthly film series exploring social justice issues	NDC Open Mic w/ Joey Campfire 6 - 9:30pm Sign ups begin at 6pm; Open Mic starts at 6:30p	Kim's Grand Rounds 7 - 9pm Songwriters take turns performing their songs	Blue Spruce 7 - 9pm Delivers traditional bluegrass that's original by design	THERE'S STILL TIME TO RENEW OR BECOME A MEMBER OF THE NDC! See link below*

*Join NDC! Go to NewDealCafe(dot) com, click on "ABOUT", then "BECOME A MEMBER OR RENEW."
FUNDING FOR THESE ADS PROVIDED BY A GENEROUS DONOR.

Featured Programming on
Greenbelt Access Television

April 2026

Verizon FiOS Channel 19 • Comcast Channel 77 •
Streaming Online at [GreenbeltAccessTV.org](#)

Featured Productions

New, daily episodes of Democracy Now

Coverage of local events, performances and productions

All-new creations from Mister Geo's Homeschool Digital Animation Class

All this and more on our cable channels, online streaming, and YouTube channel. As always, thank you for tuning in!

From Mary Lou's garden



- Photos by Ditte McInnes



Corydalis solida
Margaret flowers

Six-week Mindfulness Meditation Practice

Rev. Mark Granfors-Hunt of Greenbelt Community Church is offering an introductory six-week Mindfulness Meditation practice entitled Mindfully Yours.

This Introduction to Mindfulness series will introduce students to the calming, centering and enlivening experience of a daily Mindful Meditation practice. Each session will include a teaching on a particular topic of meditation, a time of mindful meditation practice on that topic and a time for questions. Participants will explore the practice of Mindful Meditation. Classes are scheduled for six consecutive Tuesday evenings beginning May 5 and ending on June 9, between 7 and 8 p.m. All class offerings will be via Zoom.

These classes are being offered free of charge, and there will be a free will offering opportunity once the sessions have been completed. For more information or to enroll contact Mark at mgh.gblt@gmail.com.

Registration Open For Peace Camp

Little Friends for Peace (LFFP) will hold its fifth annual Peace Camp at Greenbelt Community Church this July 20 to 24. Peace Camp is a week-long summer camp for children ages 5 to 14 to learn skills for cooperation, nonviolent communication, empathy and problem solving through Peace Circles, art, music, cooperative games, a Peace Museum and other peace tools. LFFP Co-Directors MJ and Jerry Park have led Peace Camps in Minnesota and the Washington, D.C., area annually since 1981.

In the past 10 years, LFFP has reached 3,700 children through more than 83 Peace Camps, and post-camp surveys have found a 40 percent increase in camper ability to resolve conflicts peacefully.

Information on registration, as well as applications for Peace Camp counselor and junior counselor positions (ages 15+), can be found at LFFP.org/peacecamp.

Jackie Magness Funeral Friday

A funeral Mass will be held for Jackie Magness (obituary in the February 12 issue) on Friday, April 17 at 11 a.m. at Our Lady Queen of Peace Catholic Church, 2700 19th Street South, Arlington, Va.

The funeral will be livestreamed on the church website at ourladyqueenofpeace.org. Click on either the YouTube or Facebook icon to view the livestream; an account is not needed for either platform. The livestream starts a few minutes before the Mass time and will have Jackie Magness listed as the title. A reception will follow at the same location. Jackie's remains will be interred at Arlington National Cemetery alongside her late husband at a date yet to be determined.



Our Neighbors

Congratulations to Emerson Gary for representing Greenbelt and Prince George's County at the Rotary Youth Leadership Awards.

Send details of your news to editor@greenbeltnewsreview.com.

Obituaries

The News Review publishes obituaries of Greenbelt residents, past or present.

You write it or we will if you prefer. We try to include information about participation in various activities and organizations, where the person lived and something about the family. A photograph and service information should be included. There is no charge.



"The Earth is but one country, and mankind its citizens."
— Bahá'u'lláh



Greenbelt Bahá'í Community

www.greenbeltbahais.org

CATHOLIC COMMUNITY OF GREENBELT

Mass Sundays at 10:00 a.m.
Community Center Room 114
15 Crescent Rd
cathcomgreenbelt.org
ALL ARE WELCOME!

A Roman Catholic Intentional Eucharistic Community
OR - Join us on ZOOM!
For ZOOM link:
[CCG1985+ownergroups.io](https://cathcomgreenbelt.zoom.us/j/9854099999)

St. John's Episcopal Church

11040 Baltimore Avenue, Beltsville, MD 20704
301-937-4292 www.saintjohnsbeltsville.org

Welcomes you each Sunday for Worship & Sunday School at 10:00 AM

Mishkan Torah Congregation

10 Ridge Road, Greenbelt, MD 20770
Rabbi Saul Oresky, Cantor Yael Fischman

A welcoming, inclusive, and friendly synagogue offers something for everyone: young, old, single, married, and both Jewish and interfaith families.

Services at 8:00pm Friday and 9:45am Saturday in person and on Zoom

For more information, visit MishkanTorah.org or call 301-474-4223
A Dual-Affiliated Reconstructionist and Conservative congregation
10 Ridge Rd, Greenbelt, MD 20770



Paint Branch Unitarian Universalist Church

Postal address: P.O. Box 676, Laurel, MD 20725
Phone: 301-937-3666 www.pbuuc.org

Welcomes you to our open, nurturing community

April 19, 2026, at 3 p.m.
Of Evident Invisibles
Anthony Jenkins with Worship Associate Jim Flaherty

In the spirit of our April theme (Thanks), we'll shine some grateful light on the shadows of some of our deepest inner struggles – which often turn out to also be our deepest strengths (and saving graces).

Streaming on PBUUC's Facebook page, on Zoom, and in person. Worship service held at University Christian Church, 6800 Adelphi Road, Hyattsville, MD



City Notes

CARES and Constituent Services joined U.S. Representative Glenn Ivey's food distribution event at Green Ridge House. Constituent Services participated in a statewide call hosted by the governor's Office of Immigrant Affairs and, with Economic Development, attended Washington, D.C.'s Small Business Expo. Information Technology hosted a Comcast Business representative for site visits and discussions about possible carrier changes.

Code Enforcement inspected 22 commercial suites and 14 rentals.

Animal Shelter residents are six cats, five kittens and one dog. There are 12 active dog park permits and 71 of 117 spay/neuter vouchers have been redeemed.

Parks/Ballfields prepared for Little League opening day and Horticulture removed four trees damaged by automobiles. Aquatic & Fitness Center staff and Public Works started preparing the outdoor pool to open for the season.

Arts opened a new exhibition in the Gallery and hosted an Artful Afternoon at the Community Center. Therapeutic Recreation offered seniors a scam awareness seminar and a boat excursion in Baltimore.



Mowatt Memorial United Methodist Church

40 Ridge Road, Greenbelt
Open hearts, Open Minds, Open doors
Find us on facebook.com/mowattumc
301-474-5410
Pastor Evelyn Romero

Worship Service, Sundays 9:30 - 10:30 a.m.
Living Generously in a World that Holds Back





GREENBELT COMMUNITY CHURCH

One Hillside Road

Join Us Sunday 10:15 AM for Worship
www.greenbeltcommunitychurch.org

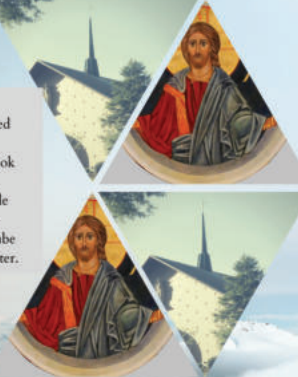


ST. HUGH OF GRENOBLE CATHOLIC CHURCH

- Daily Mass: Mon-Fri 7:15am*, Sat 9am*
- Sunday Mass:
 - Sat vigil 5pm*
 - Sun 8am, 9:30am, 11am
- Confessions Saturday 3pm - 4pm.

Masks for the unvaccinated encouraged.

CELEBRATE WITH US
135 Crescent Rd.
www.sthughofgrenoble.org





City Information & Events

The strength of Greenbelt is diverse people living together in a spirit of cooperation. We celebrate all people. By sharing together all are enriched. We strive to be a respectful, welcoming community that is open, accessible, safe and fair.

FY2027 Proposed Budget at a Glance

OVERVIEW FROM APRIL 8 BUDGET WORK SESSION

FY2027 REVENUES

\$41,748,149
▲ 3.92%

FY2027 EXPENDITURES

\$41,741,246
▲ 3.96%

Key Revenue Changes

- Property Tax: **+\$830K**
(Assessment growth)
- Speed Cameras: **+\$695K**
(New stop sign camera revenues)
- Income Tax: **+\$243K**
- Utility Tax: **\$450K**
- Cable Revenue: \$200K
- Interest Revenue: \$640K

Key Expense Changes

- Personnel Costs: **+\$2.18M**
(▲ Up 7.7%)
 - Operating Costs: **-\$430.7K**
(▼ Down 4.95%)
 - Capital Outlay: **-\$563.2K**
(▼ Down 15.8%)
- Personnel costs remain the largest driver of expenditure growth.

Other Key Points

- Camera revenue close the gap, but is not considered a dependable long-term funding source.
- The City continues to rely on fund balance to help balance the budget.
- Major planning initiatives discussed include Vision Zero, the Cemetery Master Plan, and the Indian Creek Master Plan.

FY2027 Budget Work Session Schedule

The Greenbelt City Council will hold a series of work sessions throughout April and May to review and discuss the FY2027 Proposed Budget with City staff. Community members are encouraged to tune in or attend to learn more about upcoming plans and priorities for our city.

Join us in person at 25 Crescent Road, or virtually via YouTube, the Greenbelt website at www.greenbeltmd.gov/municipalTV livestream, Zoom, or on Verizon and Comcast cable channels.

View the full schedule of upcoming work session dates below:

- (April 20) Budget Work Session - Miscellaneous, Grants & Contributions, CARES, Greenbelt Cinema
- (April 22) Budget Work Session - Recreation
- (April 27) 1st Public Hearing
- (April 29) Budget Work Session - Public Safety
- (May 4) Budget Work Session - Green Ridge House
- (May 6) Budget Work Session - Recognition Groups (Group 1)
- (May 11) 2nd Public Hearing
- (May 13) Budget Work Session - Recognition Groups (Group 2)
- (May 18) Budget Work Session - Final Budget Review
- (May 26) Budget Adoption

GREENBELT CITY CALENDAR

Be sure to check out the City calendar for all up to date events at www.greenbeltmd.gov/calendar.



* VOLUNTEER * VACANCIES * APPLY FOR A COMMITTEE OR BOARD TODAY!

Volunteering for City of Greenbelt Committees & Boards is an excellent opportunity to engage with your community and make a difference. Choose from a number of committees & boards such as the Advisory Committee on Education, Advisory Committee on Trees, Arts Advisory Board, Board of Appeals, Community Relations Advisory Board, Ethics Commission, Forest Preserve Advisory Board, Greenbelt Advisory Committee on Environmental Sustainability, Park and Recreation Advisory Board, or Youth Advisory Committee and make a difference in Greenbelt!

Take the first step towards making a positive impact and apply for one of these committee vacancies today!

Call (301) 474-8000.

ARTS HAPPENINGS

Visit www.greenbeltmd.gov/arts for more information and many other opportunities!

Sign up for ARTFANS, a weekly e-newsletter, at www.greenbeltmd.gov/list.aspx.

Artist's Studio Space

Apply by 4/17 to the Artist in Residence Program at the Greenbelt Community Center. Monthly rent: \$246.11. Info and application: <https://bit.ly/4uR1RtO>.

April Artful Afternoons

4/19; 1:30-2:30pm (Springhill Lake Recreation Center). Attract fairies to your spring garden with a ribbon hanging. Smallest artists will use ribbons and beads, while more dexterous artists will learn macrame knots to add to their art hanging. Sign up here: sugeni.us/entx.

Fused Glass Jewelry 4/19; 11am-12:30pm & 12:30-1:30pm (Greenbelt Community Center). Fused glass is the art of melting colored glass into art pieces. Register for section one to make 2 pieces of fused glass art or for both sections to make 4 pieces. Registration required: see page 2 of the spring activity guide for details - www.greenbeltmd.gov/activityguide.

MORE ARTS HAPPENING SOON

- April Art Share** 4/19; 2-3pm (Greenbelt Community Center) sign-up: sugeni.us/ekEO
- Art Studio Open House and Sale (Greenbelt Community Center)**. Part of the Artful Afternoon on 5/3/26. 1-4pm. All ages welcome. Hands-on activities included.
- May Artful Afternoons** 5/3, 1-4pm (Greenbelt Community Center). 5/10, 1:30-2:30pm (Springhill Lake Recreation Center), including a mixer hosted by the Greenbelt Arts Advisory Board and a performance by ERHS dance students. Sign up here: sugeni.us/enFb

KNOW YOUR RIGHTS

In the City of Greenbelt, we remain committed to embracing and celebrating the diversity of all. As our nation undergoes change, feelings of pride, uncertainty, and even fear may arise. Yet, we stand firm in the pledge that has defined Greenbelt since its inception and will not falter.

Learn more at <https://www.greenbeltmd.gov/government/know-your-rights-immigration-resources>.

MEETINGS FOR APRIL 20 - 24

Monday, April 20 at 7:30 pm, **BUDGET WORK SESSION - MISC/ GRANTS & CONTRIBUTIONS/CARES/GREENBELT CINEMA - Greenbelt Municipal Building**

Tuesday, April 21 at 6 pm, **BOARD OF ELECTIONS - Virtual, On the Agenda: TBD**

Tuesday, April 21 at 7 pm, **REPARATIONS COMMISSION - Greenbelt Municipal Building, On the Agenda: Draft recommendations, Focus groups, and Town Hall planning**

Wednesday, April 22 at 7:30 pm, **BUDGET WORK SESSION - RECREATION - Greenbelt Municipal Building**

Thursday, April 23 at 7 pm, **FOREST PRESERVE ADVISORY BOARD - Public Works Facility, On the Agenda: Deer exclosures – Peter May, Green Man Festival – prep for tabling**

In advance, the hearing impaired are advised to use MD RELAY at 711 to submit your questions/comments or contact the City Clerk at (301) 474-8000 or email banderson@greenbeltmd.gov. This schedule is subject to change. For confirmation that a meeting is being held call (301) 474-8000. For information on public participation for the meetings above, visit the meetings calendar at www.greenbeltmd.gov/calendar.

FREE MEMORY SCREENINGS

Wednesday, April 29 from 10 am - 12 pm
Greenbelt Community Center, 15 Crescent Rd

A memory screening is a simple and safe "healthy brain check-up" that tests memory and other thinking skills.

Each memory screening takes approximately 10 minutes and while the result is not a diagnosis, it can suggest if someone should see a physician for a full evaluation. Call 240-241-0037 for more info.

2ND ANNUAL TOUCH-A-TRUCK

Saturday, May 2 from 11 am - 2 pm
Beltway Plaza, 6000 Greenbelt Rd, Parking lot behind AMC

Join us on Saturday, May 2 from 11 am to 2 pm for Greenbelt's 2nd Annual Touch-A-Truck at Beltway Plaza! Bring the whole family for a hands-on day of big trucks, games, activities, and plenty of fun. Climb aboard real vehicles, enjoy music, food, and a lively atmosphere, plus prizes and giveaways throughout the event. This free, all-ages event takes place in the parking lot behind AMC at 6000 Greenbelt Road.

THE PRINCE GEORGE'S COMMUNITY FEDERAL CREDIT UNION SHREDDING DAY

Saturday, April 18, at 8 - 11 am

The Prince George's Community Federal Credit Union parking lot at 112 Centerway

Only 5 file boxes/bags per person. Follow directions. Personal records only (no business). Abandoned items will be put in the trash. No batteries. No plastic binders and sheets. No contaminants accepted.

NEW FOOD DISTRIBUTION DATE FOR APRIL

Thursday, April 23 at 1 - 3 pm, while supplies last
Greenbelt Community Center, 15 Crescent Road, GFE

The Monthly Food Distribution is a community resource here for you, your family, your neighbors - everyone! Please don't forget to bring your CAFB card! Don't have one? You can sign-up for a free card sameday and receive food.

A majority (or quorum) of Greenbelt City Council members may attend community organization meetings, but no official Council action will be taken at these meetings. Please note that meeting locations may change after being published. For information on how to join these meetings, contact the respective organization directly.

OFFICIAL NOTICE - PUBLIC HEARING

The Greenbelt City Council has scheduled a public hearing to be held during the Regular Meeting of Council **Monday, April 27, 2026 at 7:30 pm**

CONCERNING THE PROPOSED BUDGETS FOR FISCAL YEAR 2026-2027 FOR THE GENERAL FUND AND EACH OF THE OTHER FUNDS OF THE CITY.

This is the first of two Public Hearings on the budget. The second will be held on Monday, May 11, 2026. The Public Hearing will be held in person at the Municipal Building and virtual via Zoom. Public attendance and participation are encouraged. All residents of Greenbelt will have a reasonable opportunity to provide written and oral comments and ask questions concerning the entire budget. Copies of the proposed budget may be examined at the City Offices, 25 Crescent Rd., during normal operating hours. The proposed budget is also posted on the City Web site at <http://www.greenbeltmd.gov>. For more information, please call 301-474-8000.

- Bonita Anderson, City Clerk

EARTH DAY KAYAK CLEANUP

Saturday, April 25 from 10 am - 1 pm
Buddy Attick Lake Park, 555 Crescent Rd

In partnership with Venture Crew 746 and the Greenbelt Rotary Club, volunteers will work with City staff to remove debris from the lake and plant along the shoreline to support a healthier local ecosystem.



Use the QR code to sign up in advance.

SERVSAFE FOOD CERTIFICATION COURSE

(NEW) Thursdays, May 7, 14, 21, and 28 from 6-9 pm
Greenbelt Community Center, 15 Crescent Road

Sharpen your food safety knowledge and earn your ServSafe Certification with this comprehensive, instructor-led course. ServSafe is the leading food safety training and certification program from the National Restaurant Association, offering certification for food service professionals to prevent food-borne illness and meet health regulations.

Class #: 257201-1

Register today via RecTrac, by emailing tgreen@greenbeltmd.gov, or in person at the Greenbelt Community Center.

ARBOR DAY & NATIVE SPECIES GIVEAWAY

Saturday, April 18, 11 am - 2 pm

Greenbelt Community Center, 15 Crescent Road

In honor of Arbor Day, the City of Greenbelt is giving away free native trees and shrubs to residents to plant in their yards! All species are native to Maryland, are acclimated to our climate, and provide food and shelter for wildlife.

Limit: 1 plant per household (supplies are limited!)

Register in advance to select your species: www.greenbeltmd.gov/ArborDay.

Available species: Red Maple, Eastern Redbud, Witch Hazel, Spicebush, Sweetbay Magnolia, and Black Gum.

Want to make sure your new tree gets the best start? Read this helpful planting guide from the Arbor Day Foundation: arborday.org/trees/planting.

Contact Public Works at (301) 474-8004.

WSSC STANDPIPE REHABILITATION UPDATE

Beginning around Tuesday, April 21, a contractor will begin using specialized equipment called a Faster Blaster as part of the Greenbelt Standpipe rehabilitation project. This robotic machine performs blasting and painting work along the structure's walls and is expected to complete about 80% of the required blasting.

While still audible, it operates at a lower noise level than the conventional equipment used earlier, which will help reduce overall noise later in the project. This phase of work is expected to last approximately two to three months, with crews working between 8 am and 5 pm. Residents are thanked for their patience as the project continues to support reliable water service.

LEADERSHIP continued from page 1

had activities that built our leadership skills and heard from inspiring guest speakers. Matt May, who works at Morgan Stanley, taught us the Rotary Four Way Test, which is a guide to help build healthy personal and professional relationships. We learned when solving a problem to ask ourselves: 1) Is it the truth? 2) Is it fair to all concerned? 3) Will it build goodwill and better friendships? and 4) Will it be beneficial to all concerned? Gregor Baum also spoke with us about his journey of having to end his professional tennis career due to injury. He created a workbook called The Inner Journey to help others on their path while navigating personal challenges. Lastly, Dr. Unnatti Jain, a behavior change expert, spoke with us about motivational speaking and how to build better relationships to create a more empowered life.

Team Projects

The main project over the weekend was a team community service project. As a group, we had to choose an issue in our community and present our solution to three judges, who determined whether or not our solution was applicable. For the project, we had to pick a nonprofit organization that focused on the issue we wanted to address. Three winners would win money for the organizations. First place won \$1,000, second place won \$500 and third place won \$250. The group that won first place would also be able to turn their project into reality. My group focused on ICE raids in the DMV and we came up with solutions to help families and youth that were affected. The nonprofit organization that we chose was CASA, which focuses on improving the quality of life for low-income immigrants through advocacy, legal services, job placement and community organizing. So many teams had amazing ideas and worked together to come up with solutions that will change society for the better. Although my group didn't win, I was glad to see that everyone was so passionate about their ideas and genuinely wanted to do good for their community.

Learning Experience

While at RYLA, I learned a lot about myself and how to be a better person for those around me. I made genuine friendships and became more motivated to be a leader. What's amazing is that RYLA doesn't stop there. I learned that teens can become Group Leaders, who manage the groups, almost like a camp counselor. My Group Leaders told me that I could become one next year if I wanted by asking and being recommended. I love that teens have the ability to make an impact with RYLA in so many different ways and that after attending RYLA camp, they still can participate.

I think RYLA is an amazing opportunity for teens; it teaches that speaking up can change lives around them. Rotary and RYLA prove that teens can make an impact. Bringing together teens to work on leadership and charity is powerful and inspiring. I believe that more teens should have this opportunity, as it has changed my way of thinking.

To learn more about the Greenbelt Rotary Club and the opportunities RYLA provides, visit greenbeltrotary.org, [facebook.com/Greenbeltrotary](https://www.facebook.com/Greenbeltrotary) and rotary7620.org/youth-programs/ryla.

The Greenbelt Rotary Club will begin identifying candidates in September 2026 for the February 2027 RYLA, with selections to be made by Thanksgiving. The application will require students to submit a statement of intention for their future goals. Check the club's website, greenbeltrotary.org, closer to September for application information.

What Is the Greenbelt Rotary Club?

Rotary is an international nonprofit service organization with about 45,000 clubs worldwide, each with their own focus.

The Greenbelt Rotary Club focuses on food security, driver education and the environment, to build economic self-sufficiency, community and peace. It supports Springhill Lake Elementary and Greenbelt Elementary school students and families, and partners with Greenbelt CHEARS (Chesapeake Education, Arts and Research Society) on its Three Sisters demonstration gardens and with Greenbelt Grows. It supports local youth as the charter organization for Greenbelt Venture Crew 746, a Scouting America organization for youth aged 14 to 20; funding Greenbelt high school students to attend the annual RYLA youth leadership experience; and funding prizes for the Greenbelt Black History and Culture Committee's Greenbelt Middle School Essay Contest during Black History Month.

The club builds community and peace as a fiscal sponsor for the Greenbelt Pumpkin Festival, financial sponsor of the Greenbelt Outstanding Citizen Award and host of a September International Peace Day event. Greenbelt Rotary also funds learner's permit driving hours for Greenbelters without a licensed driver/car in the family who can't afford to pay driving schools.

Upcoming events include a Saturday, April 25 Greenbelt Lake cleanup with the Venture Crew and City of Greenbelt and two fundraisers: a June garden tour and a Thanksgiving holiday house tour.



Colorful parrots try to read the News Review over Pat Scully's shoulder at the Cruise Port Oasis in Cartagena, Colombia. They share the Oasis with peacocks, flamingoes, black swans, sloths, monkeys, a herd of turtles and other wildlife.

Democratic Club Candidate Forum

The Roosevelt Democratic Club invites the community to a Candidates Forum on Sunday, April 19 for Maryland's Fourth Congressional District. Come hear directly from the candidates, learn about their priorities and ask the questions that matter most - all before Election Day. The meeting starts at 2 p.m. in the Greenbriar community building.

Repair Cafe At Makerspace

The next free Greenbelt Makerspace Repair Cafe is on Saturday, April 18 from 10 a.m. to noon at the Granite Building, 115 Centerway. Come learn how to repair your tired or broken stuff or help repair others' items (experienced and novice volunteers needed). Bring clothing, bicycles, furniture, appliances, computers, jewelry, toys, etc. for the challenge of making them useful again. See tools.greenbeltmakers.org.



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CREW 746

www.venturecrew746.org



Co-Ed

Ages 14-21

Leadership

Adventure

Service

Community

Join Crew 746 for our Upcoming Events:

Earth Day with the City of Greenbelt

April 25th 10 am—2pm

Buddy Attick Park

Lake Clean-up and Shore Planting

Meet the Crew and Learn More about Us

Crew 746 Open House

April 26th 7—8:30 pm

Mowatt Memorial United Methodist Church, 40 Ridge Road

Meet the Crew, Learn More about Us, Fun Activities

Let Us Know You're Coming!

Email for more info:

venturecrew746@gmail.com



Fill Out the Interest Form at this link



Visit the Crew 746 Website



Visit the Crew 746 Instagram



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If you are reading this so are your next customers.

\$46 and up

www.GreenbeltNewsReview.com

CO-OP continued from page 1



PHOTO BY TOM JONES

Members form a line to ask questions at the meeting.

operative and the known and unknowns facing both potential action and inaction. Presenters came prepared with answers to and context for questions received through many avenues (including social media) and laid out either the best present understanding for each and/or the steps necessary to fully and accurately answer those inquiries requiring more intensive investigation than has been possible thus far.

Members were also asked to contribute suggestions or insights if they had them, and a poll for GHI members designed explicitly to rapidly capture feedback on this topic was made available to all eligible attendees.

Attendees brought many insightful and creative questions about what, ultimately, a potential purchase by GHI of this building would mean for members of each cooperative. While dozens of questions were posed to both co-op delegations, several key themes emerged from questions, such as:

Is GHI allowed to purchase the property under its current bylaws, or would the bylaws need to be amended prior to such a purchase, at the upcoming annual meeting, for instance?

What sort of lease terms would be appropriate and mutually beneficial for both GHI and GCC, and what process would be followed to increase the chances of successful financial outcomes for both entities?

What is the maintenance situation of the building?

Is GHI able to move quickly enough to see the deal through?

Multiple members also stressed the profound importance to the community of having a viable anchor business like GCC, citing the effects of its stability on other businesses in Roosevelt Center as well as food security, curb appeal

and quality of life considerations for many Greenbelters. Anxieties and curiosities surfaced as well, particularly around whether GHI's potential purchase of the building would slow or accelerate the rise in GHI monthly membership fees.

Today, GHI engages in real estate business through a wholly owned subsidiary, Greenbelt Development Corporation (GDC), which maintains the Parkway Apartments which generate rental income. Under current regulations, GHI is already permitted to realize revenue other than membership fees (rentals, fee for service, GDC), which could contribute to its balance sheet and potentially offset member fee increases, though there is no guarantee that such endeavors would do so.

The next step for GHI members is to contribute feedback to the Board of Directors, as to whether the remaining investigatory work should be conducted with GHI resources, as well as the urgency and transparency with which GHI should pursue or avoid this opportunity.

GCC President Kim Kash told the News Review the current deadline the cooperatives are working towards is May 19, which is the date by which GCC must indicate to the current owners of 121 Centerway whether or not the agreement will move forward.

Throughout the meeting, members of both boards stressed the importance of the pace of the decision, as finalization deadlines and annual meetings quickly approach.

Some details, including the proposed price of the purchase and GHI's bond holdings, were shared with members at the meeting but are not reported in this article due to the sensitive nature of the ongoing negotiation.



PHOTO BY CLAUDE BERNARD

Robbie, Chip, Sam and Jessica Helms visited Jessica's grandfather in North Port, Florida.

Eyes on Earth at GSFC Activities for Children

Activities and demonstrations for children ages 3 to 5 will be held on Thursday, April 16 from 9 to 10 a.m. at the Goddard Space Flight Center Visitor Center during a special morning hour before they open to the public. Registration is required for each child participant. At least one parent or guardian must be on site for the entire program. Registration information can be found at eventbrite.com/cc/nasa-goddard-visitor-center-3091729. The GSFC Visitor Center is at 9432 Greenbelt Road.



Nugent & Kash
OF COMPASS

Andrew and Kim are putting the finishing touches on half a dozen new listings in Greenbelt!

If you are considering a purchase, this is your time! Prices and rates are both stabilizing --while rent continues to rise.

Let us help you to find your home.

Kim Kash & Andrew Nugent
kim.kash@compass.com
m: 301.789.6294
andrew.nugent@compass.com
m: (301) 814-8010

660 Pennsylvania Ave SE, Suite 401
Washington DC 20003 | O: 202.545.6900

Nugent & Kash named the 2026 Face of Prince George's County Real Estate by Washingtonian Magazine.

COMPASS

Compass is a licensed real estate brokerage that abides by Equal Housing Opportunity laws. Information is compiled from sources deemed reliable but is not guaranteed. Compass is licensed as Compass Real Estate in DC and as Compass in Virginia and Maryland. 660 Pennsylvania Avenue SE Suite 300 Washington, DC 20003 | 202.545.6900

A Life in Tandem

On Thursday, April 23, A Life in Tandem will be playing at the Greenbelt Cinema. This movie is sponsored by the Keystone State Ride (KSR) which raises funds for cancer research. KSR has raised over \$80K for cancer research in their first two years. The group was founded by Dave Wellborn whose family has lived in Greenbelt for many years. Dave is also a cancer survivor and has worked with the director to bring this film to Greenbelt. Come out to support this important fundraiser to end cancer. Learn more at KeystoneStateRide.com.



SLES Hosting Annual Schoolyard Cleanup

Springhill Lake Elementary School will be hosting its annual Schoolyard Cleanup on Thursday, April 23 from 8 a.m. to 1:15 p.m. and a Stream Cleanup on Friday, April 24 from 8 a.m. to noon. All are welcome to come out and share what the school's amazing students are doing.

A branch with pink cherry blossoms.

NEW DATE!

You Are Invited To

A Garden Party

at Mary Lou's Garden,
58 Lakeside Drive
or picket gate on Lake trail

Sunday, April 26 from 1 to 5 p.m.

A garden scene with yellow flowers and a stone wall.

The logo for McCARL DENTAL GROUP, featuring a stylized star and the text "McCARL DENTAL GROUP".

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A photo of three dentists in white coats: Dr. Dianna Lee, Dr. Clayton McCarl, and Dr. Richard Duarte.

Arts & Entertainment

A Review

GAC’s Sweat Depicts Workers’ Pain During Economic Insecurity

by Mary Sies and Christopher Stark

Bob Kleinberg directs Sweat, Lynn Nottage’s vibrant and hard-hitting play about how factory workers fight, strive and suffer as corporations squeeze unions and move equipment and jobs offshore. The play, which premiered nationally in 2015 and regionally at Arena Stage in 2016, is now onstage at Greenbelt Arts Center (GAC). It won a Pulitzer Prize for Drama – Lynn Nottage’s second. She is the only woman in history to win two Pulitzers for drama.

The action is set in Reading, Pa., in 2000 and 2008. Nine skilled actors breathe life into the narrative of how, in Nottage’s words, “poverty and economic stagnation shift the American narrative” at the start of the 21st century. Those characters – coworkers, friends, family members, a barkeep and a busboy – work through plans, pain, prejudice and the rupture that comes to workers’ lives as Olstead’s factory abruptly shifts from a union plant to a cost-cutting business model.

Snippets of morning radio newscasts introduce each of the 15 scenes of Sweat in soundbites that alternate the action between the years 2000 and 2008. They evoke the major issues of the day that form the context for actions the play’s characters must navigate: the North American Free Trade Act, the tech bubble that burst at the end of the 20th century, the financial collapse of 2008 and national elections in both years. These stresses on a large scale are made particular and devastating for the lives of the play’s characters. Most of those characters share a hangout in a neighborhood bar where much of the action occurs – wonderfully realized by set decorator Roy Peterson. Their off-stage workplace is a tubing plant that traditionally offered secure employment for these people, their parents and grandparents, but is already cutting costs in 2000 and has cut those lives loose by 2008.

All of the actors (Lauren Barnes, Emily Canavan, Cristian Hernandez, Larry LaRose, Taylor Peppers, Joshua Prescott, Melvin Smith, Ryan Willis and Jacqueline Youm) give strong performances and the ensemble superbly realizes the playwright’s design. In a 2016 interview Nottage said she wanted to write an ensemble piece that functioned as a collective narrative, but “each of the characters has their own aria.”

Several characters perform moving arias in this staging. As owners at Olstead’s squeeze their workers to accept 60 percent wage cuts, the union strikes and management advertises for “scabs” to cross picket lines. Conflict, disillusionment and occasional wisdom erupt among the regulars at the bar. Tracy (Canavan), a white woman passed over for a promotion to management that her best friend Cynthia (Youm), a Black woman received, spits out that management just wanted “a minority.” She bitterly recalls her family’s decades-long history



PHOTO COURTESY GAC

From left: Emily Canavan (Tracey), Cristian Hernandez (Oscar), Jacqueline Youm (Cynthia) and Lauren Barnes (Jessie)

at Olstead’s and her craftsman father’s many achievements. Bruce (Willis), Cynthia’s estranged husband, spirals downward after management locks out workers at another factory for 93 weeks. He advises Chris (Prescott), his son, and Jason (Peppers) that “they never got back in.” Take the concessions, he advises the young ‘uns. Cynthia, doing her best to look after her fellow workers’ interests, feels pride in having a desk and computer in the air-conditioned office suite after 20 years of working on the floor. “Sweet,” she says, “doesn’t even begin to describe it.” Chris, working on a college degree before the strike and reflecting back on the whole process of deindustrialization, concludes, “the writing’s on the wall; it’s like we can’t read.”

The most powerful performance of the ensemble occurs in July 2000 when Cynthia’s family and friends confront her at the bar upon learning that Olstead’s will cut retirement and wages, and has taken three industrial machines to Mexico, dramatically downsizing the plant’s capacity. Everyone shouts at once, but the ensemble so carefully choreographs the dialogue, that the audience hears every point of view and grasps the full impact of the news, person by person.

Sweat shows at GAC through April 25, Fridays and Saturdays at 8 p.m. and Sundays at 2 p.m. There is a talkback with cast and crew scheduled after the April 19 matinee. The running time is two and a half hours with one

15-minute intermission. Viewers are warned that Sweat contains abundant profanity, including one mention of the N-word, as well as smoking and violence.

In summarizing her play, Nottage says that in a fractured community where characters are hurting in isolation, she wanted to put those people into dialogue. “Some of the characters do have questionable morality ... everyone on that stage in some way is culpable and takes some responsibility for the outcome.”

Nottage’s quotes and paraphrases come from Lynn Nottage on the Origins of SWEAT, The Public Theatre, at tinyurl.com/bdfwnav4 and Emma Brown, Lynn Nottage’s Sweat and Blood, Interview Magazine, December 13, 2016 at tinyurl.com/4pw5bnj2.

6th Annual Ukulele Picnic



PHOTO BY MICHAEL HARTMAN

On Sunday, April 12, ukulele players from Greenbelt and beyond enjoyed the 6th Annual Ukulele Picnic, sponsored by Greenbelt Recreation Arts. The music was compiled and the players were led by ukulele instructor Rachel Ann Cross, under the shade of a large tree on the Community Center lawn.



PHOTO BY ANNE GARDNER

Quinn, age 2, of Greenbelt, enjoys the ukulele event.



GAC
GREENBELT ARTS CENTER

Sweat
written by
lynn nottage

THE 2017 PULITZER PRIZE WINNER

APRIL 10–25

FRIDAYS & SATURDAYS 8PM

SUNDAYS 2PM

CAST/CREW TALKBACK FOLLOWING SUNDAY, APRIL 19 PERFORMANCE

SCAN QR CODE FOR TICKETS OR VISIT GREENBELTARTSCENTER.ORG

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Arts & Entertainment

A Review

MAD’s Moon Over Buffalo Brings Authenticity to “Mad” Characters

by Li'l Dan Celdran

by Melissa Sites

Fans of live theater will be in for a treat with *Moon over Buffalo*. More than a lively, door-slamming farce, it’s a love letter to theater by Tony Award-winning playwright Ken Ludwig. Director Randy Barth has put together a terrific cast who work together beautifully. Every other line of this play is a zinger, but still, the talented NASA Goddard’s Music and Drama Club (MAD) actors bring authenticity to the regrets and dreams of these “mad” characters.

The play catches George and Charlotte Hay (played with relaxed familiarity by Jon Gardner and Jill Goodrich) as their floundering theater company attempts to stage *Cyrano de Bergerac* in repertory with Noël Coward’s *Private Lives* at the Erlanger Theater in Buffalo, a real-life venue that was famous for hosting this kind of touring production. Not only does this play incorporate versions of these two famous plays, but theater fans will love the quotations from Shakespeare peppered throughout.

The Hays’ daughter Rosalind (Katie Frye) is fed up with her parents’ crazy theater lifestyle and is now engaged to Howard, a starstruck weatherman (James Pildis), but her old flame Paul (Courtney McIntosh) is still the Hays’ stage manager. Frye, Pildis and McIntosh bring youthful energy to their triangle, as their characters try to decide what they really want out of life.

George first appears in full *Cyrano* garb, with long false nose and pumpkin pants, trying to drag some enthusiasm from a corps of stage soldiers with a rousing speech. George is a ham, who according to his mother-in-law Ethel (Joanne Breen), should be stuck full of cloves and served with pineapple, and Gardner brings bluster and verve to a character who seems to be nearing the end of his rope. You can’t bring a nose (and pants) like that on stage and not have it pay off later. Goodrich gives a steady and long-suffering portrayal of an actor who still hopes to become a star.

The crux of the play is that famous director Frank Capra is planning to come to their afternoon matinee to see if George and Charlotte might be a good fit for his film *The Twilight of The Scarlet Pimpernel*. The Hays are so unprepared they are not even sure which play is scheduled for the matinee, leading to a wonderful scene where Rosalind has to do the opening of *Private Lives* all by herself. Frye does a wonderful job as Rosalind ad libs half the lines, only for George to finally appear, staggering drunk and still dressed as *Cyrano*. Industry attorney Richard Maynard (Bob Singer) wants to take Charlotte



Cast members from left: Courtney McIntosh (Paul), Katie Frye (Roz), Jon Gardner (George), Jill Goodrich (Charlotte), Joanne Breen (Ethel) and Bob Singer (Richard)



From left, Katie Frye (Roz), James Pildis (Howard) and Makkie McNea (Eileen) in *Moon over Buffalo*

- Photos by Theophilus Britt Griswold

away from it all. He swears they will go on cruises, everywhere “from Rochester to Schenectady!”

Because he has made “one, simple, innocent mistake,” George is reduced to a drunken mess who repeatedly wakes up, screaming, “Oh my God! Charlotte!” every time, crying with joy and remorse as he thinks his wife has decided not to leave him after all. Despite their poor life choices, these characters are lovable, and the MAD cast and crew bring out the best in them. Don’t miss the opening cabaret, *Wrong Turn, Right Song*, directed by Cathy McCoskey and

Keshav Swaminathan, whose performance of *Rainbow Connection* with special guest stars, the Muppets, is a tour de force!

MAD presents *Moon Over Buffalo* through Saturday, April 25 on the Goddard campus at the Barney & Bea Recreation Center, 9998 Good Luck Road. Buy tickets in advance (to show the gate guards) from MADTheater.org.





NASA’s MAD Theater Presents:



A comedy directed by Randy Barth and produced by Susan Breon

www.madtheater.org

3 weekends: April 10 - 25

Tickets: \$22/\$20/\$12

Barney & Bea Rec Center, Good Luck Rd.

Concert Band Plays Tribute To Late Director Tom Cherrix

by Li'l Dan Celdran



PHOTO BY KAREN SEATON

Greenbelt Concert Band is conducted by Joan Rackey.

The Greenbelt Concert Band paid a heartfelt tribute to former director and longtime member Tom Cherrix on March 21 at the Community Center, where the band has proudly performed for many years. Many of Cherrix’s fellow musicians from other ensembles joined as guest performers for this special concert. The thoughtfully selected program concluded with *Il Maestro*, a composition by Cherrix offering a fitting and personal tribute to his legacy.

Community Center Coordina-

tor Adam Daelemans and his team coordinated the space, setup and logistics; Band Aides Karen Seaton and Ken Silberman managed the welcome table; student volunteers provided assistance and many helped ensure the performance ran smoothly. Greenbelt Access Television filmed the event.

The Concert Band expressed their deepest thanks for Cherrix’s many years of service, dedication and lasting impact on the band.

Li'l Dan Celdran is Greenbelt Concert Band’s General Manager.

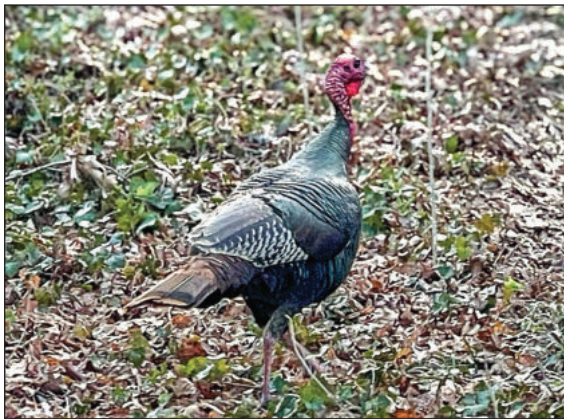


PHOTO BY IAN BLACKWELL ROGERS

A wild turkey walks near the trail above the Firefly Sanctuary, between Laurel Hill and Research Roads.

Annual Greenbelt-Beltsville Garden Club

PLANT SALE

Saturday, May 2, 2026

9 am - Noon

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DNR Firewise Program Offers Guidance on Wildfire Protection

by Catherine Plaisant

March 2026 marked the one-year anniversary of the large brush fire that burned through the woods behind Greenbelt Elementary School and in the Beltsville Agricultural Research Center (BARC). (See the April 2, 2025 issue.) Though there were no fire-related injuries or structures lost – thanks to the Prince George’s County Fire Department and other units – this is a good time to consider how to reduce the risk of future wildfires damaging homes and woodlands. There are many things Greenbelters can do, said Lance Carroll of the Maryland Department of Natural Resources’(DNR) Firewise program. Carroll toured Greenbelt on January 7 at the invitation of Greenbelt Homes, Inc.’s Woodlands Committee and the Greenbelt Forest Preserve Advisory Board, and met with a small group of residents on Plateau Place to share his assessment and tips.

Healthy Forest, Low Risk

Fortunately, Greenbelt’s overall risk of woodland fires is “low,” Carroll said. “Hardwood trees are predominant in Greenbelt forests and much less flammable than evergreens, such as pines,” he said. Fires in a healthy hardwood forest usually remain at ground level, which makes them easier to extinguish. Greenbelt’s March 2025 fire was indeed a leaf-and-brush fire which never reached the tree canopy. Still, a warming climate, increasing droughts and the spread of invasive plants stress everything that grows, and our risks will likely increase over time. (Track Maryland’s drought status at <https://tinyurl.com/yck63jji>.)

In Maryland, 97 percent of wildfires are started by human activities. Carroll explained that outdoor fires pose the greatest risks. He was pleased to see no evidence of encampments in Greenbelt’s woods, and the City of Greenbelt prohibits fires in our woods. He surprised the group by emphasizing that the most effective way to reduce wildfire risk to our homes starts in our own yards. The Maryland Firewise Program recommends creating “defensible” space 30 feet around the home and outbuildings, free of flammable materials. Evergreen trees and shrubs (including bamboo), piles of firewood and even wooden fences are examples of risk factors near a house. The program’s webpage provides more details and many recommendations, dnr.maryland.gov/forests/pages/fire/firewise.aspx. See also sidebar.

Because the overall risk is low, gardeners living next to the woods may decide to densely plant their yard for aesthetics or ecological reasons, but they should consider keeping at least a few feet clear around their home. Four feet is good; 10 feet is better. As the climate continues to change, Greenbelt homeowners closest to the woods will need to develop larger defensible spaces.

Helping Firefighters

Firefighters need easy access to all sides of a home. In GHI, access lanes should be clear behind garden-side fences. Carroll often sees tangles of invasive plants blocking access to structures they



PHOTO COURTESY CATHERINE PLAISANT

This Greenbelt home demonstrates firewise planting practices, with clear “defensible” space between the home and flammable plants or outbuildings.

are trying to save. Examining a section of Plateau Place, where wisteria and other invasive vines were thoroughly removed by GHI volunteer woodland caretaker John McGovern, Carroll said, “It doesn’t get much better than this” to reduce wildfire risk. Other preventive actions noted in surrounding yards included shrubs and flower beds that were planted several feet from the house (possible even in very small GHI yards). Homeowners should also keep leaves away from the perimeter of houses, decks, porches and latticework, and never store flammable materials under a deck.

In Greenbelt, invasive shrubs and vines have taken root in the forest, and Carroll said such plants can create a heavy fuel load and act as “fire ladders” making it easier for a fire to reach the tree canopy. Volunteers can help build the resilience of Greenbelt’s woods by joining community workdays and learning best practices to remove the plants that choke trees and destroy habitats. Both the GHI Woodlands Committee and the City of Greenbelt host workdays in most seasons. Residents can also avoid planting invasive vines and shrubs such as wisteria, porcelain berry or bamboo in their yards.

The group discussed that in any fire, firefighters will need to triage and put their energy where they will have the most success. The biggest lesson the group learned from the state’s Firewise program is: we each have a responsibility to prepare for wildfire.

State and County Tips

The website Firewise Living in Maryland (<https://tinyurl.com/ye22x7w3>) provides information for residents living at the “wildland urban interface,” including:

- A wildfire home assessment
- Top 10 recommendations
- A plant flammability key

The Prince George’s County Fire Department has a tip sheet listing county rules for small recreation fires: keep the fire under adult supervision at all time; keep a hose, fire extinguisher or other means to extinguish the fire at hand; and no fires during drought or windy conditions. For more information, see <https://tinyurl.com/yepa5zps>.

Did You Know?

Ninety-seven percent of Maryland wildfires are caused by humans. Maryland wildfires peak in the spring and fall, not in the heat of the summer. (Source: Wildland Fire in Maryland from DNR <https://tinyurl.com/u3hydetu>.)



Calling All Artists Calling All Artists



New Deal Cafe is in need of your artwork for the Upcoming Green Man Art Show. The Green Man Festival is a celebration of nature. This group art exhibit will be held at the New Deal Cafe from Sunday, May 3 until Sunday, July 5. Submissions for this group show are due by Thursday, April 30. Please send us photos of your art work to artatnewdealcafe@gmail.com as soon as possible. There is no limit on the number of art pieces you can submit. Please make sure the pieces you are submitting are hang ready. Looking forward to seeing your wonderful artwork. If you have questions, please send a message to the above email.

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PHOTO BY DANZSON CELDRAN-TAYLOR

Li'l Dan Celdran takes her News Review to downtown Ventura, California.

GHI Bike Committee Hosts Spring Social

The GHI Bicycle Committee will sponsor a Spring Social for Saturday, April 18 from 1 to 3 p.m. in the board room of the GHI Building, 1 Hamilton Place.

Members of the Greenbelt City Council will take part in a panel discussion on bicycle infrastructure in Greenbelt. The forum, including questions from the audience, will focus on recent infrastructure improvements, such as the bicycle repair stations, and outline future infrastructure plans.

Following the forum, participants will have the usual gear swap to trade or give away unwanted bicycle gear. Bring no-longer-needed gear to the social and find something useful in return. Refreshments will be served.



Playground Plogging: Safe & Sparkly Spaces

Looking for a fun Earth Day activity? Try plogging, or picking up litter while jogging. Odd as it may sound, the new “sport” is becoming extremely popular with runners worldwide, many of whom are posting images of themselves and friends holding bags of trash on social media.

On Earth Day, Wednesday, April 22, Greenbelt Plogs, a RUAK (Random Unselfish Acts of Kindness) initiative, will be cleaning up around the many city playgrounds in all of Greenbelt, making them safe and sparkly.

Those interested should contact Robert Goldberg-Strassler at spreadruak@gmail.com and let him know where they’ll be plogging, or ask where ploggers are needed, so as to coordinate efforts and spread the wealth of engagement.

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Arts & Entertainment

Fragile but Unbreakable: Porcelain War at the New Deal

by Kurt Stand

Anya delicately finishes a porcelain snail in Porcelain War.



A poster frequently displayed during protests against the Vietnam War stated simply: “War is not healthy for children and other living things.” I thought of that while watching Porcelain War, a 2024 documentary filmed in Ukraine about the war that demonstrates how beautiful things are imperiled by war. The film shows the way the Russian invasion has devastated that country – and the refusal of people to allow war and destruction to define who they are. Geopolitical arguments begin to fade into insignificance when one looks at the impact foreign invasions have on people whose land is occupied.

Co-directed by Slava Leontyev and Brendan Bellomo, the film was screened on March 16 as part of the Reel and Meal series, wholly on-line for the first time since Covid restrictions were in place, due to a threatened storm (which didn’t materialize until well after the film and subsequent discussion were over). Nonetheless, the post-film discussion was as lively and informative as those that take place in person.

Central to Porcelain War’s theme was the assertion that art is a form of resistance: “creativity, the opposite of war.” The beautifully filmed documentary focuses on Leontyev and Anya Stasenko, who create figurines, objects that exemplify a refusal to give in to the horror of war, out of a material – porcelain – that is easy to break, but impossible to destroy. They continue to create despite constant shelling, staying in their village even as war surrounds them. This is itself a commentary on Ukrainian culture. Viewers get a sense of the beauty of the landscape and of the architecture, notwithstanding the scars of destruction wrought by bombing. The movie is largely filmed by their friend, Andrey Stefanov, who makes the difficult decision to remain and document the war – the resistance via art and personal integrity, resistance via arms. Leontyev becomes an arms instructor, as civilians become soldiers, taking up weapons to defend their town, defend their country.

Wars don’t simply target buildings and fighters, they target families and children, creating disruptions and loss in a form that can never be calculated. Stefanov stays to document the destruction, while his wife and children leave, joining countless others who become refugees – like all refugees, through no fault of their own. Visuals of a snail remind us that, while snails travel with their homes on their backs, refugees are like snails without a shell. Music, perhaps, is a way of carrying one’s home. The film’s score is by DakhaBrakha, a Ukrainian folk band that combines traditional and modern music, mixing styles of different ethnic groups. The quartet gave their music to the film as a way to signal their support for the project. Listening, one is reminded of the music and sounds of The Trumpeter by Ukrainian playwright Inna Goncharova, which was performed recently at Dupont Underground; the musical themes and styles were different, but the underlying haunting notes spoke to the same spirit.

That spirit was captured in Porcelain War by Slava and Anya’s dog, Frodo. Throughout the movie, seemingly impervious to the shattering sounds of bombs falling, he is everywhere – relentless, ever curious, gentle but courageous.

The screening was sponsored by the Greenbelt Pottery Group, based in the Community Center, which has participated in Ukrainian solidarity fundraising initiatives, and the Greenbelt Refugee Aid Committee (GRACE), which has been supporting Ukrainian refugees. For more information about either organization and their work, contact Frank Gervasi at greenbeltrefugeeaid@gmail.com.

Greenbelter Peter Vosekovsky led the post-film discussion, joined by Natalia, a Ukrainian English teacher who cheerfully spoke via Zoom from the war zone, although it was the middle of the night all those time zones away. The wide-ranging discussion moved from learning more about the film itself to learning about the war firsthand.



One of the porcelain stars of Porcelain War

- Photos courtesy Picturehouse 2024

Baseball’s Opening Day: A Season of Joy on the Field

by Max Cason

Greenbelt Little League’s opening day festivities on April 11 included an unusual feature: a public art dedication. Project supporters gathered around the sculpture Joy near the Braden tennis courts to reflect on the significance of the piece which depicts an abstracted figure mid-way through a cartwheel. The project was developed over the span of a year, culminating in the installation of the sculpture in December 2025. The piece was created by Impact Art and lead artists Ali Mirsky, Duffy and Howard Connelly, who also facilitated the installation. The project was managed by Nicole DeWald, arts supervisor with Greenbelt Recreation, and supported by Brian Townsend, Brian Abbott and colleagues at the Department of Public Works, who provided landscaping assistance and concrete work. It was funded through the American Rescue Plan Act as part of the Braden Athletic Complex renovation.

Thanks abounded also for the contributions of the project advisory committee (LaShel Baravechia, Chris Corson, Robert Goldberg-Strassler and Bill Wilkerson); Recreation leadership, City Manager Josué Salmerón and the Greenbelt City Council; users of the space who provided thematic and design input; and over 250 summer campers, Artful Afternoon participants and Golden Age Club members who helped to make, glaze and configure the mosaic elements that form the surface of the sculpture.

The rainbow colors of the mosaic celebrate the diversity of the Greenbelt community and the spirit of the Greenbelt Community Pledge. The cartwheel, in addition to being an expression of pure joy, depicts a fleeting moment in which an individual holds the entire earth in their hands; it is a moment of connection and a subtle reminder of our shared responsibility. Structurally, the sculpture is built around a steel armature covered in high density foam and fiberglass-reinforced concrete; while it should be treated with care, the sculpture is designed to be climbable.

The following is the language of the official dedication, delivered by Mayor Pro Tem Kristen Weaver:

“So much more than a feeling, joy can be seen as an indicator of both personal and community wellness. These values were close to the heart of Roy S. Braden, Greenbelt’s first town manager – a champion of Recreation services for whom the Braden Athletic Complex is named. We honor his memory today, and all the keepers of his legacy.

“On behalf of Mayor Jordan and the entire Greenbelt City Council, I hereby dedicate the sculpture Joy as an enduring tribute to the richness of the Greenbelt community and our spirit of cooperation. Joy affirms the child in us all, powerfully present, full of awe and flourishing in freedom. Inspired by this uplifting artwork, may we all renew our



PHOTO BY BRYCE RUSK

Clockwise from left at the dedication of the statue are J Davis, Councilmember Danielle McKinney, City Manager Josué Salmerón, Ahnika Hutchinson Salmerón, Councilmember Frankie Santos Fritz, Councilmember Jenni Pompei, Councilmember Silke Pope, Arts Supervisor Nicole DeWald, Councilmember Amy Knesel, Mayor Pro Tem Kristen Weaver.



PHOTO BY JAN GOLDBERG

Jan Goldberg’s grandson Jason Elias was inspired by the statue of Joy to do handstands.

commitment to maintaining the conditions in which peace can prevail and joy can arise. This sculpture speaks to the generosity of volunteers with Greenbelt Youth Baseball, Greenbelt Babe Ruth and all of our recognition groups, working in partnership with our dedicated city staff to provide affirming social spaces in which Greenbelters can connect,

play, grow and thrive. Joy speaks to the kindness of all neighbors, who through gestures both great and small, elevate each other’s spirits, and brighten each other’s days. Let us always be mindful that we all have that power!”

See page 15 for more on the youth baseball season.

Max Cason is an art studio manager with Greenbelt Recreation.



Greenbelt MakerSpace Repair Café

Saturday Apr. 18 from 10 am - noon

Now 3rd Saturdays monthly for 2 hours only

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Come learn how to repair your tired or broken stuff (volunteers needed as well). Bring your bikes, clothing, furniture, appliances, computers, jewelry, toys, etc. for the challenge of making them useful again. Repairs are not guaranteed.

Tool Library: Thursdays 6:30 - 8 pm,

Saturdays 10 am - noon, Sundays 11 am – 1 pm

<https://tools.greenbeltmakers.org>



SAYT continued from page 1

January, charges residents a base fee and then ties additional costs to how much trash they produce. Households can either buy special city bags or pay for a Max Trash sticker that allows up to three large bags (equivalent volume 99 gallons) of trash per week.

Resident Experiences

For some residents, particularly those in smaller households, the change has led to lower costs and less trash. Deborah Kijak Hess, who lives alone, said she chose the Save As You Throw option after reviewing the pricing.

“I’m in a one-person household, so when I looked at the cost analysis, Save As You Throw appeared that it was going to be a lot cheaper,” she said. “And that’s turning out to be the case.”

Hess said the program also changed how she manages waste. Instead of putting out a bag every week, she now waits until it is full, reducing how often she sets trash out. “I don’t throw out nearly as much trash as I thought I did,” she said.

She said the program, which she initially thought would be complicated, has been easier than expected and works well for her neighborhood, which is made up mostly of one- and two-person households.

Evelyn Reisenwitz, who lives with her spouse and young child, chose the Max Trash option, citing the volume of waste from diapers and a preference for a simpler system. “I didn’t want to have to think about what bags I was using,” she said, adding that her household may reconsider once their child is older.

Reisenwitz said her own experience with the rollout was smooth, but she was concerned by confusion among other residents. “I think that my biggest concern is that folks were not open to the program because they did not understand the program,” she said. She added that the city could have done more early on to clarify how the system would affect different households and what changes would be required.

Despite those concerns, Rei-

senwitz said she supports the program’s overall goals. After initially feeling skeptical, she said the approach made more sense as she learned more about it and considered the alternative of raising costs for all households.

Reisenwitz said changes to trash collection, such as new requirements for placing cans outside GHI trash enclosures and closets, were a bigger adjustment than the pricing itself. Needing to remove trash cans from closets and enclosures created challenges for some households, particularly those with mobility limitations. “I’m sure for some folks, that was actually quite a transition for them,” Reisenwitz said.

Waste Reduction Goal

City officials have said the program is intended to encourage residents to reduce waste and delay reaching capacity in existing landfills. The alternative would have been raising flat fees for all households, regardless of how much trash they produce.

Reisenwitz said that while the rollout was difficult for some, the program appears to be stabilizing after its first few months. “I think the toughest part of the program was the rollout,” she said. “Change is hard.”

Hess said she hopes the program continues, pointing to the reduction in waste and its potential to encourage recycling and composting. “I will not be a happy camper if we end up having to go back to the way we were,” she said.

City officials said more data will be analyzed in coming months as they evaluate whether the program is meeting its long-term goals. Further financial details will be shared at a city council budget worksession on Public Works scheduled for Wednesday, April 15.

Stephen Lotz is a University of Maryland student at the Philip Merrill College of Journalism interning with the Greenbelt News Review.

SHOOTING continued from page 1

County State’s Attorney Tara Jackson announced that four teenagers have been indicted for Bayong’s murder.

At the time of the murder, Greenbelt police believed there were multiple occupants of the car from which multiple rounds of gunshots were fired. Witnesses reported seeing a silver Infiniti with dark tinted windows and no front license plate, driving at a high rate of speed in the area. “We believe at this point that these were known individuals and that everybody involved in both shooting incidents was familiar with each other. This was not a random event,” said Greenbelt Police Chief Richard Bowers the Monday after two fatal shootings took place during daylight hours that October weekend.

Nineteen-year-old Jamarri Ruffin, 18-year-old Abdourahmane Sylla and two male juveniles who cannot be named have been charged with first-degree murder, second-degree murder, first-degree assault and use of a firearm in the commission of a violent felony, said Jackson in a press release. In Maryland, the first-degree murder charge means all four will be tried as adults. They are all being held without bond.

No further information has been released about the male juveniles who are being charged. Court records show both Ruffin and Sylla have been charged in other crimes since turning 18 (any court documents or charges related to juveniles under 18 are not public record.)

Jamarri Ruffin

Ruffin, who turned 19 in January and was 18 at the time of the murder, is a resident of Clinton. In Bayong’s death he faces first-degree murder, second-degree murder and first-degree assault charges, as well as firearm use in a felony violent crime, second-degree assault, unlawfully taking a motor vehicle, handgun in vehicle, loaded handgun in vehicle,

malicious burning and theft less than \$100.

Ruffin is also involved in an open case in which he is charged with attempted second-degree murder from an incident on September 23, 2025, less than two weeks before Bayong’s murder. In that case he faces charges of first- and second-degree assault, firearm use in a violent felony crime, attempted theft scheme between \$1,500 and \$25,000, unlawfully taking a vehicle, a loaded handgun in a vehicle, rogue and vagabond, loaded handgun on his person and more. In Maryland, rogue and vagabond charges relate to breaking and entering a vehicle and/or stealing its contents or carrying the tools to do so. Ruffin was ordered to be held without bond in that case on March 3, prior to the other charges.

A third open case against Ruffin stems from October 23, 2025, over two weeks after the murder of Bayong, in which Ruffin is charged with theft between \$25,000 and \$100,000, having a loaded handgun on his person, unlawfully taking a motor vehicle and more.

Abdourahmane Sylla

Sylla, a resident of Lanham, turned 19 this week while being held without bond for the murder of Bayong. He faces charges of first- and second-degree murder, first- and second-degree assault, use of firearm in a felony violent crime, unlawfully taking a vehicle, having a loaded handgun in a vehicle, malicious burning and theft under \$100.

Sylla also has open charges from an incident on October 23, 2025, the date of one of the other incidents Ruffin was involved in. Like Ruffin, he faces the charge of theft between \$25,000 and \$100,000 on that date, as well as unlawfully taking a vehicle and rogue and vagabond. In that case he was released on recognizance, awaiting trial.

In a third case brought by the state, and one that involves seven

co-defendants, Sylla is charged with possession of narcotics with intent to distribute last month, on March 3. In that case he is also charged with possession of a controlled and dangerous substance (not cannabis) and use of firearm in a drug-trafficking crime. He was released on recognizance on March 4 until he was charged with Bayong’s murder and held without bond beginning March 24.

“This outcome would not have been possible without the dedication and persistence of the detectives who worked diligently throughout this investigation,” announced the Greenbelt Police Department, which also extended its appreciation to the Prince George’s County Office of the State’s Attorney, the Prince George’s County Police Department and their other law enforcement partners who provided assistance and collaboration.

Ruffin has a preliminary hearing set for April 16 and Sylla’s is scheduled for April 27.

Closing Cases

On Friday Greenbelt Police also announced three arrests, similarly including two juveniles, for the murder of Mancel Johnson, who was also fatally shot in the Franklin Park neighborhood in the fall (see page 13). Since October, detectives have conducted a thorough and methodical investigation, carefully reviewing all available evidence to identify those responsible, said the Greenbelt Police Department. “These guys have been working really hard and using all the resources available to close so many cases,” Greenbelt Police Department’s Public Information Officer Ricardo Dennis told the News Review on Tuesday.

Crisis Hotline’s Number is 988

The National Suicide Prevention Lifeline dialing code is 988. Calls and text messages are confidential and free.

Greenbriar Phase II Elects New Board

Greenbriar Phase II held their annual meeting on March 10. The Board of Directors are as follows: Linda Kulle, president; Doris Hamilton, vice president; Cheryl Taylor, secretary; Claudia Harris, treasurer; Dakota Goldfarb, director.



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Police Blotter

Incidents reported here occurred April 6-12, 2026. Readers are encouraged to contact the police if they have information that may aid in an inquiry. Call the non-emergency number 301-474-7200 or email pd@greenbeltmd.gov. Times provided are when the incidents were reported.

Incident Summary

Greenbelt Police reported one death, two domestic incidents and two mental health diversions, one involving attempted suicide. A missing person report was resolved.

Assault

On April 7 at 10:45 a.m. near 6000 Greenbelt Road, an employee saw a man take a shopping cart with merchandise into the restroom. When he came out, the cart was empty. When the employee tried to confront him, he assaulted her and fled.

On April 8 at 7:04 p.m. near 7800 Hanover Parkway, three women and a man were fighting and pepper-sprayed each other to stop the fighting. Warrants were advised.

On April 11 at 11:50 a.m. near 5912 Cherrywood Terrace, two roommates were fighting and gave conflicting accounts; they were found to be mutual combatants.

On April 11 at 12:01 a.m. near 5707 Cherrywood Lane, a security officer was assaulted by a man who fled on foot along Breezewood Drive.

Threats

On April 7 near 6146 Springhill Terrace, a mother reported that her 15-year-old daughter had been influenced via text messages by a friend to harm herself. Officers and the Crisis Intervention Unit provided guidance on available resources and how to obtain a protective order.

DUI arrests

On April 11 at 2:40 a.m. near Greenbelt Road and Cherrywood Lane, officers saw a vehicle rear-end another vehicle stopped at the red light. The driver of the striking vehicle was arrested for DUI.

On April 12 at 8:56 p.m. near 5825 Cherrywood Lane, a traffic stop resulted in a DUI arrest.

Fraud

On April 7 near 22 Ridge Road, someone sent money on three separate transactions to a scammer claiming to be Apple support.

On April 9 near 6500 Capitol Drive, a customer paid the dealer using money orders for a down payment, but the bank flagged the money orders, leaving the dealer without payment.

On April 11 near 7607 Greenbelt Road, a woman was scammed out of money for an apartment, and called when she realized it was an elaborate scheme.

Theft

On April 7 near 6156 Springhill Terrace, a package was stolen, and at 5:50 p.m. near 9113 Springhill Lane, a woman left her purse by the front door while bringing items inside, then noticed her emptied purse in a trash can.

On April 8 at 10:09 p.m. near 6100 Greenbelt Road, a known shoplifter was banned and sent away.

On April 9 at 3:08 p.m., an electric scooter was stolen from the bike rack at Eleanor Roosevelt High School.

On April 10 at 6:18 p.m. near 9168 Edmonston Road, maintenance workers came to an apartment and later two firearms were noticed to be missing.

Suspicious Persons, Disorderly Conduct, Trespassing and Drugs

On April 8 at 6:21 p.m. near Breezewood Drive and Cherrywood Lane, a man admitted to having drugs on him and tried to flee on the Metro bus; he was taken to Upper Marlboro Department of Corrections.

On April 9: At 3:02 a.m. near 5510 Cherrywood Lane, a man known from previous encounters was sleeping in an entrance way, blocking the door; he was arrested for trespassing. At 12:12 p.m. near 5506 Cherrywood Lane, a man tried to give flowers to an employee who did not know him; he was identified and sent on his way. At 12:43 p.m. near 7583 Greenbelt Road, a repeat offender was making inappropriate comments and harassing customers. He tried to leave on his bicycle, but because he had stolen items and had an outstanding warrant, he was arrested.

On April 11 at 6:09 p.m. near 5506 Cherrywood Lane, a banned man was seen on mall property, cited and released.

On April 12 at 8:49 p.m. near 9220 Springhill Lane, officers on foot patrol confiscated drugs from a man; some intelligence was gathered for further investigation and he was banned from the location.

Vehicle Crimes Stolen Vehicles

Four vehicles were stolen: on April 6 near 6000 Greenbelt

Road, a Chevy Trax work vehicle was stolen with keys inside (Md. 5GJ8256); on April 7 near 1 Westway, a white Honda CRV (Md. 70712HT), and near 6214 Breezewood Court, a black Ford Explorer (Md. 7FA5434); and on April 8 near 6400 Cherrywood Lane, a white 2015 Lexus GS.

On April 10 near 7816 Hanover Parkway, a vehicle was reported stolen, but it had been towed.

Theft from Auto

Airbags were stolen on April 7 from four Honda Civics: two near 46 Crescent, a 2019 near 7832 Lakecrest Drive and a 2013 near 8150 Lakecrest Drive.

On April 8 near 8208 Canning Terrace, all four wheels were stolen from a 2026 Honda Civic.

On April 12 near 9117 Springhill Lane, a disability placard was stolen from a 2013 Mercedes,

Vandalism to Auto

On April 6 near 5323 Smiths Cove Lane, a vehicle was broken into, and near 8000 Greenbelt Station Parkway, a 2024 Toyota RAV4 had a window broken.

On April 9 near 5717 Greenbelt Metro Drive, a vehicle was keyed.

On April 12 near 5925 Cherrywood Terrace, windows were broken on a 2019 Dodge Challenger and on a nearby 2014 Challenger; near 6109 Breezewood Court, two Honda Accords, a 2008 and a 2017, had windows broken; and near 9110 Springhill Lane, a vehicle had a smashed window.

Arrested for Sept. 12 Murder: 21-Year-Old and Two Juveniles

by Anna Bedford-Dillow

Greenbelt Police announced the arrest of three suspects charged with the murder of Mancel Johnson. Johnson, a 49-year-old resident of Lanham, was shot multiple times on September 12, 2025, in the 6100 block of Springhill Terrace, in what was believed to be a targeted shooting.

At approximately 9:24 p.m. on September 12, officers in the area heard three or four shots being fired. They ran toward the sound of gunfire and found Johnson suffering from multiple gunshot wounds near the intersection of Edmonston Court and Springhill Terrace. Greenbelt Police searched the area, assisted by a U.S. Park Police helicopter. Johnson was transported to a nearby hospital, where he died on October 5 as a result of the shooting.

In our September 25 issue we reported that Public Information Officer Ricardo Dennis said the shooting was an “isolated incident and is not part of any broader trend within the Greenbelt community.” (For prior reporting of this shooting see the September 18 and 25 and the October 9, 2025, issues).

Greenbelt Police announced three arrests for the murder: Halberth Heneddy Deras Ramos, the only suspect to be named, is a 21-year-old man from Laurel, who was arrested on April 3 with the assistance of the Prince George’s County Police Department’s Emergency Services Team.

A 15-year-old and a 16-year-old boy were also arrested in connection with this killing. All three are facing charges of first-degree murder, second-degree murder, first-degree assault and the use of a firearm in the commission of a violent felony. The juveniles’ names will not be released at this time. In Maryland, the first-degree murder charge means both juveniles will be tried as adults.

Johnson died the same weekend as 14-year-old Carlin Bayong and 25-year-old Juan Gonzalez, who were both also shot and killed in the Franklin Park neighborhood. Separately, arrests for the murder of Bayong were also announced by Greenbelt Police on Friday (see the front page).

visit
www.greenbeltnewsreview.com



PHOTO BY STEVE BUCCA

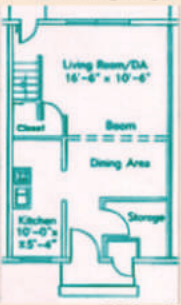
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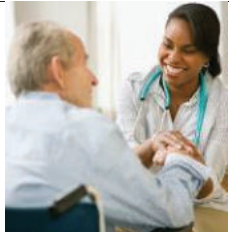
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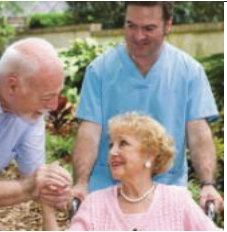
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YARD/MOVING SALES

INDOOR COMMUNITY YARD SALE - May 9, 2026 - 9am - 1pm @ GVFD - 125 Crescent Road. Table reservation: One \$15, Two \$25. For further information, please call: Kathy 301-351-7496 (cell). Food and beverage available for purchase.



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BOXED: \$11.50/column inch. Minimum 1.5 inches (\$17.25). Deadline 2 p.m. Monday for ads that need to be set up, including those needing clip art and/or borders. 6 p.m. Tuesday for camera-ready ads. Certs and Notarizations each \$10.

NEEDED: Please include name, phone number and address with ad copy. Ads not considered accepted until published.

DROP ads and payments in the mail slot in the exterior door of the News Review office. The door is located to the left of the main entrance on the east side of the Community Center (side closest to Roosevelt Center and the Municipal Building).

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Sports

Greenbelt Little League Celebrates 75th Opening Day for Youth Baseball



On Saturday, April 11, Greenbelt Little League celebrated the 75th opening day. The event featured a parade, food trucks and a ceremonial first pitch by members of the Greenbelt City Council. There was also a ribbon cutting for the improved baseball fields at Braden Fields, which the Greenbelt youth baseball players will be able to enjoy this season.

Recent Scores

Date	Division	Matchup	Result	Location
April 11th	Minors	Orioles vs. Yankees	Orioles 12-8	McDonald
		Tides vs. Space Cowboys	Tied 15-15	McDonald
	Majors	Rangers vs. Bulls	Rangers 12-9	Braden 2
	Intermediate	Seeds vs. Goldeyes	Goldeyes 13-7	Schrom
		Yard Goats vs. Laurel Phillies	Yard Goats 12-7	Braden 2
	Juniors	Cubs vs. Arbutus Orange Crush	Cubs 21-1	Braden 1
April 13th	Intermediate	Yard Goats vs. Laurel Phillies	Yard Goats 15-8	Turney Field (Laurel)



PHOTO BY BEN FRIEDMAN

Upcoming Games

Date	Division	Matchup	Time	Location
Thu 4/16	Juniors	Cubs @ Laurel-Ross	6:00 PM	Laurel High School
Sat 4/18	Juniors	Cubs vs. Arbutus-Camacho	1:00 PM	Braden 1
	Intermediate	Goldeyes vs. Yard Goats	3:00 PM	Braden 2
		Seeds @ Laurel Phillies	10:00 AM	Turney Field (Laurel)
	Majors	Bulls vs Rangers	12:00 PM	Braden 2
	Minors	Tides vs. Orioles	9:00 AM	McDonald
		Yankees vs. Space Cowboys	12:00 PM	McDonald
				Turney Field (Laurel)
Mon 4/20	Intermediate	Goldeyes @ Laurel Phillies	6:00 PM	American Legion (Laurel)
	Majors	Bulls @ Laurel Orioles	6:00 PM	McDonald
Tue 4/21	Minors	Space Cowboys vs. Orioles	6:00 PM	McDonald
Wed 4/22	Intermediate	Seeds vs. Yard Goats	6:00 PM	Braden 2
	Majors	Rangers @ Laurel Yankees	6:00 PM	Legion
Thu 4/23	Minors	Yankees vs. Tides	6:00 PM	Braden 2

Teams are Greenbelt LL unless otherwise indicated.

Team members huddle. Pictured from left are Isaac D’Innocenzo, Angel Santana, Robert Artman Jr., John Benson, Joe Hodal, Logan Lavoy, Guiseppe Mallardi and Bryan Martinez. Not visible are Benedict Lindquist, Desmond Morrell, Kensington Clark and David Avila.



PHOTO COURTESY CITY OF GREENBELT

The teams file toward Braden Field.

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Chess Club Holds Tournament

by Effie Levner

On March 24, the Greenbelt Chess Club ran a chess tournament, open to the public. The event turned out to be very successful, a sign there may be more tournaments in the future.

Players were diverse in age group and skill level. Two were under 10 years old.

This tournament was planned and led by a skillful club member, Matt Elliott, who explained the guidelines of the competition and observed the implementation of the details. It was a four-round rapid tournament.

Chess rules and etiquette were followed during playing. Prizes were given to the top three players. Light refreshments were served.

This tournament was not just about a competition. One could also observe the positive social interaction and good mood among the participants. They received encouraging feedback from some individuals. This gave them a good indication for future plans and the direction of the club.

Kyle Hosey is one of those inspired by the club and expressed his thoughts. “Greenbelt Chess Club was the first place I found to play chess in real life since I started playing again a few months ago. I have been back almost every week since. Playing over the board is a very different experience than playing online, especially when people are as welcoming as I’ve found them to be at the club,” said Hosey. “I love that there’s a wide variety of skill levels and playing styles, so as an intermediate player there’s a mix of games where I feel like I’m teaching something, balanced games and games where I’m learning from better players. I especially value the speed games I play with Gary, which are both great friendly competition and learning experiences for me. We even got to play in a simultaneous exhibition against a local master level player last month. The club has been a big part in keeping my interest in chess going, both through improving at the game and meeting great people!”

Effie Levner is the founder and organizer of Greenbelt Chess Club.



Winners from left: Kyle Hosey (2nd place), Carl Sanders (1st place) and Alicia Deligianis (3rd place)

PHOTO BY EFFIE LEVNER



PHOTO BY MATT ELLIOTT



PHOTO BY EFFIE LEVNER

Chess tournament players



PHOTO BY EFFIE LEVNER

Spellman Overpass Resistance Fridays

Join the weekly protest on Spellman Overpass, Fridays (except in rain, wind or snow) from 3:30 until 5:30ish. Flags and big-letter messages are provided to cheerfully encourage Parkway motorists’ awareness. To minimize driver distraction, extra signage is discouraged.

Access from Gardenway or from the Eleanor Roosevelt High School crosswalk. Questions? Email kashla@pm.me.

Birding 101: In Search of Birds At Greenbelt Lake, with Friends

by Corita Waters



PHOTO BY THOMAS ZELLER

Corita Waters, left, and Natalie Bailey go birding at the Lake.

We stood there, quiet, near the new pavilion at the Lake, peering up the tree trunks and across branches, gazing into the briars and bushes, adjusting new binoculars to bring things into focus – eyes straining to notice movement, ears piqued to hear a song, feet still for a moment but not for long.

Suddenly a sighting – a downy woodpecker flew into nearby branches and climbed its way up and around to the top of the tree trunk. Nearly 20 mostly new birders excitedly lifted their binoculars to catch a glimpse of the woodpecker.

This early rising group joined Birding 101 with Kevin Carpenter-Driscoll and several Greenbelt Rangers on March 14. The birding walk led the group around Greenbelt Lake to listen, look and learn about the resident and visiting birds that frequent the lake and surrounding woods and ponds. Moving at a comfortable “observers’ pace”, the group had a celebrity sighting of a bald eagle (being chased by a crow!), popped out onto the peninsula for a peek at ducks and geese and a pied-billed grebe and looped around to the field and pond where goldfinches, red-winged blackbirds, Carolina wrens, north-

ern cardinals and blue jays sang out to greet the morning.

“As a novice to birding, I enjoyed noticing birds small and big and listening to their songs,” said Thomas Zeller, an 18-year resident of Greenbelt, who has been walking and running around Greenbelt Lake hundreds, if not thousands, of times but got a new perspective on this walk.

Resident Natalie Bailey said, “It was helpful that they had binoculars on hand. And Kevin was great at pointing out and telling stories about the birds we saw.”

Three thousand, five hundred steps, more than 25 species and so much fun and enjoyment.

Missed this Birding 101? Interested folks can look for another walk in May (tentatively May 16) and will be able to sign up a few weeks beforehand – be on the lookout on the city website/social media and in the Greenbelt News Review.

Migratory birds arrive in the spring, and the month of May will bring singing, nesting and resting birds to Greenbelt Lake and environs. Come join the flock.



PHOTO BY KATRINA BOVERMAN

Mother Nature’s artistry on Eastway